

Disability Now

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Prince delivers the goods

HRH The Prince of Wales has underlined his interest in disability by meeting winners of the *Disability Now* Christmas card competition, presenting certificates to them and hearing about disability issues.

The Prince of Wales Advisory Group on Disability, of which he is President, will be using the *DN* cards this Christmas.

Seven artists with disabilities, out of more than 500 entrants, came to London last month for the presentation.

By choosing to have it in his study at St James' Palace, the Prince encouraged an informal atmosphere where he could talk to each winner, see their design and meet their helpers and the judges.

People forgot their shyness and chatted about where they lived, their schools, painting technique, subject matter and, in the case of a runner-up, Vera Bracher, how she was running out of wall space. "So am I," said the Prince.

The judges of the competition were William Buchanan, chair-
Continued on page 2



The Prince of Wales: "Do they make you work hard?" Christian Jones: "No".

LEON MORRIS



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Government silent on benefits review

Disability organisations are waiting impatiently for a statement on the disability benefits review, which the Government said would be forthcoming after all the Office of Population, Censuses and Surveys' reports on disability had been published.

The sixth and final report was published on 17 July.

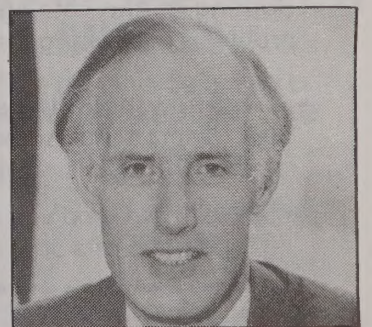
There was no Government comment before the House of Commons went into recess on 28 July, although it is rumoured that civil servants have been working behind the scenes on a number of different policy options for some time.

The Minister for Social Security and the Disabled, Nicholas Scott, is officially responsible for the benefits review, but he will have to clear any decisions with his new political boss Antony Newton, who replaced John Moore as Secretary of State for Social Security in the Cabinet reshuffle.

Mr Newton is a former Minister for the Disabled and initiated the OPCS disability reports.

The Disability Benefits Consortium, made up of over 250 organisations, including the

Disability Alliance, The Spastics Society and Mencap, is arguing for a full, open and independent review chaired by civil servants, not Ministers, including disabled people with knowledge of social security.



Antony Newton: initiated the OPCS reports

The Consortium says there should be no question of a "nil cost" review. It wants benefits in line with the financial needs of disabled people. This would obviously mean the Government making substantial extra resources available.

The Disability Alliance is pressing for a comprehensive disability income – a disability pension to replace earnings and a

Continued on page 2

Government silence*Continued from page 1*

disability costs allowance – which could cost as much as £3 billion.

The OPCS reports showed that there are some 6.2 million disabled adults in Britain – twice the previous official figure – and 360,000 disabled children.

The reports revealed that:

- two-thirds of disabled adults under pension age are unemployed and those employed earn less than their able-bodied counterparts

- three-quarters of disabled

adults rely on state benefits as their main source of income with an average total income of £62.50 a week.

- 3.5 million disabled people spend between £5-£15 per week extra on costs arising from their disability

- parents with a disabled child are more likely to be unemployed and one third felt their child had needs related to disability they were unable to meet.

All the research was done before the benefits changes, which took effect from April 1988, and left more than one million dis-

abled people worse off according to the Disability Alliance.

A Department of Social Security spokesperson said it was considering the benefits review and would make an announcement "in the fullness of time".

★ The sixth OPCS report into services, transport and education for disabled children found that both children living at home and in residential care had an average of about three disabilities, of which behavioural disabilities were the most common.

Children in care were more handicapped in terms of mobility

than those living at home; one third could not go out without assistance compared with a tenth of children at home.

Children with mobility disabilities were far more likely to use a wheelchair if they lived in care but less likely to use other disability-related equipment.

The average weekly cost of keeping a child in a residential establishment was £340 in 1988.

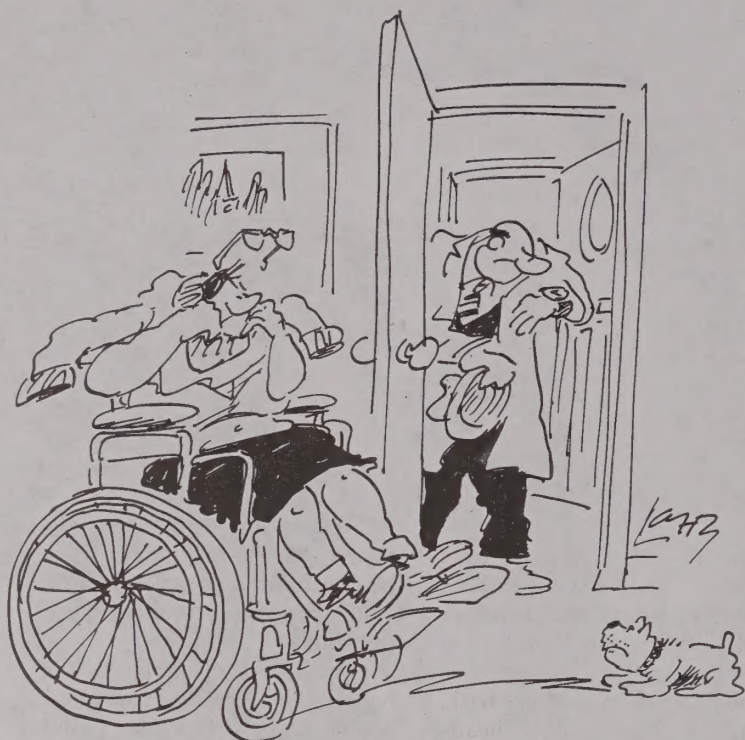
Disabled children: services, transport and education, by H. Meltzer, M. Smith and N. Robus, HMSO, £14.30.

It's a long, long wait at the bus stop



Wheelchair users form a bus queue on Westminster Bridge, 22 August, in their Campaign for Accessible Transport. The group plan further events this summer to highlight transport inequality in the capital. "Public transport is not public," said CAT's Tracey Booth. Call her on 01-377 0988.

DAVID NICHOLSON



Problems?

Every day millions of people in this country experience some sort of problem in getting dressed and awkward, inappropriately designed clothing often conspires to make matters even worse.

In response to the problem, Damart - one of the country's leading Mail Order companies - and The Disabled Living Foundation - a charity dedicated to solving the daily living problems facing disabled people - have collaborated in the production of something really rather special.

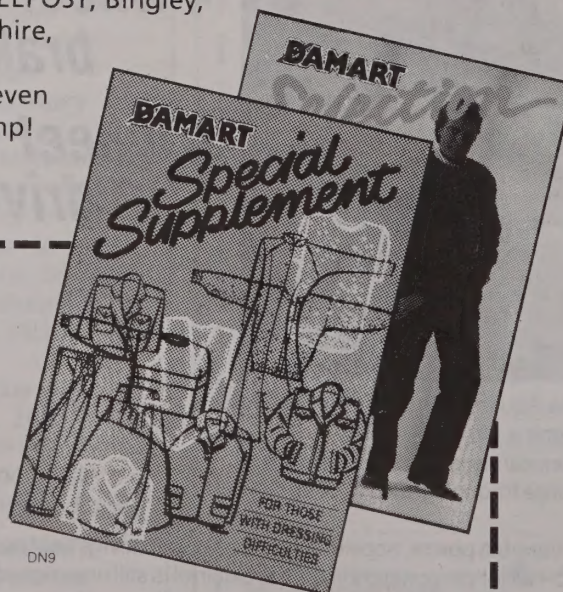
Together they have produced a 'Special Supplement' to the new Damart 'Selection' catalogue which, not only provides a general guide to the types of clothing most suitable for those with special clothing needs, but also identifies those items of clothing in the catalogue which might make the problems of dressing just that little bit easier.

And how special is the 'Selection' catalogue itself? Well, Damart has something of an international reputation for 'Warming the World' and, alongside

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HD O-ILF

Prince delivers goods

Continued from page 1

man of the Prince's Advisory Group, Valerie Lang, a vice-chairman of The Spastics Society, Adam Reynolds, *DN's* art critic and editor Mary Wilkinson.

The Prince told them that from meeting people he had learnt how appearances can belie the real person and abilities can be masked by lack of communication. He appreciated the importance of microtechnology for disabled people.

Valerie Lang noted that financial support is much easier to get if you acquire a disability rather than are born with it, and Adam Reynolds spoke of making ends meet as a professional sculptor.

Mary Wilkinson mentioned the OPCS reports and the hopes for a comprehensive disability income.

The Prince had read *DN* and remarked on recent features about car insurance and the community charge.

In a short speech, Valerie Lang thanked the Prince for the time and effort he gives to promoting the interests of people with disabilities.

"We often complain of being patronised by people who have good intentions but little understanding," she said. "I only wish that more people had the insight and empathy you bring to your patronage of our struggle for independence and equality."

More pictures, winning designs and coupon to order cards, pages 12-13.

US Rights breakthrough

Legislation that would stop Americans with disabilities from being discriminated against at work, in public places, when they travel or make a phone call, is likely to be approved by Congress and the Senate before the end of the year.

The Americans with Disabilities Act, introduced by Senator Edward Kennedy and supported by President Bush, has been hailed as the most comprehensive civil rights measure for 25 years, doing for America's 43 million disabled people (including people with AIDS) what the Civil Rights Act did for black Americans in 1964.

Existing anti-discrimination legislation for disabled people applies only to the Federal Government, its contractors and public services receiving Federal money. Now it would apply to most private companies.

Any company employing more than 25 people (15 people, within two years) would not be able to refuse employment to a person or dismiss them because of their disability. Appropriate accommodation and equipment would have to be provided.

Nearly all kinds of retail outlets, such as banks, restaurants and hairdressers, would have to be accessible and new commercial or public buildings of more than two stories or 3,000 sq ft would be required to have a lift.

All new buses, trains and subways would have to be accessible to wheelchairs within five years and existing rail networks within 20 years. Telephone companies would have to install listening devices for deaf people.

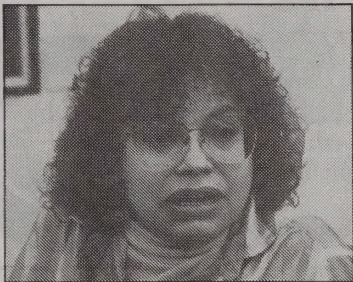
Supporters of the bill think the Government will save billions of dollars by getting disabled people into jobs and off welfare payments. But companies large and small faced with funding adaptations are fearful.

Although exemptions can be claimed if the structural or operational changes are thought unreasonable, small companies are worried about who will decide what is reasonable, and the cost of inevitable lawsuits.

"Companies have nothing to be scared about if they follow the law, and if they are violating it they should be scared," said Judy Heumann, co-founder of the first Centre for Independent Living in Berkeley, California, and now co-director of the World Institute on Disability. But no companies went bankrupt as a result of earlier lawsuits, she argued. Often the modifications are inexpensive, and there are tax incentives too.

She welcomes the new bill as another step in the right direction rather than as an end in itself. "The Act will uncover other problems in the system. Discrimination is one reason why people aren't working, but there are others: architectural barriers, finding adequate and affordable health insurance (there is no NHS in America), care assistance, transport and re-training."

Referring to a new report, which shows that disabled American men are less likely to have a job now than in the early '80s and the earnings of disabled people declined against all American workers, she added: "We know people aren't working. There's no system out there to help them."



Judy Heumann welcomes Act. LEON MORRIS

Call for more OTs

There should be an 80 per cent increase in the number of occupational therapists by the year 2000 and the profession should prepare now for the future of OT in community care.

These are the two main recommendations of the independent commission into the profession, chaired by QC Louis Blom-Cooper, whose full report will be published this month.

There are 10,000 OT's in the UK but the demand for their services is continuing to grow because of the increasing number of elderly people and the move into the community by people with disabilities.

The commission recommends deploying more staff from hospital-based services into community-based services such as GPs surgeries.

It also says more men and mature women should be encouraged to join the profession as a way of boosting its numbers. At present 22 per cent of posts in the NHS and 35 per cent in social services departments are vacant. The problem is particularly acute

in central London.

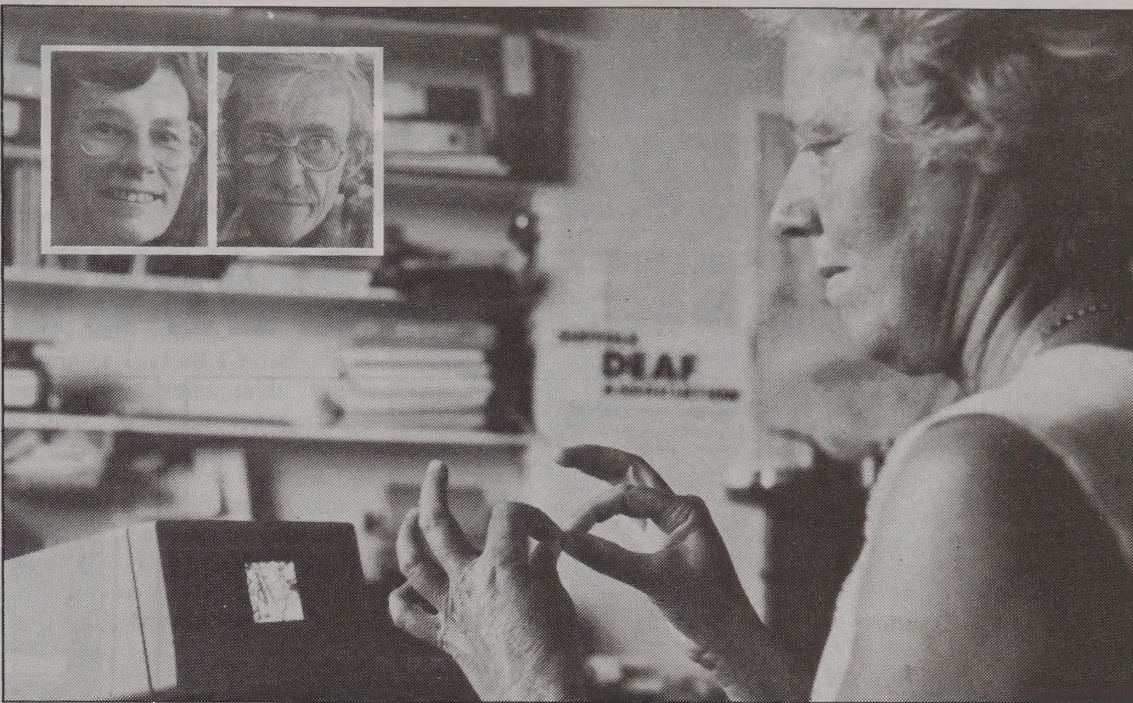
At the same time the commission says the profession should not lower its entry standards to recruit more school leavers but should think about moving towards degree status.

Christine Craik, chair of the College of Occupational Therapists (COT) publicity committee, says increasing the number of OTs will depend on whether the Government is prepared to sponsor more training places in colleges and polytechnics through bursaries or grants.

She says people leave the profession because the demand puts them under more stress and, like many teachers, if people cannot give the quality of service they want to, then they may opt out.

There will be a national occupational therapy week from 6-10 November to raise public awareness of what OTs do and recruit more people to the profession.

College of Occupational Therapists, 20 Rede Place, off Chepstow Place, London W2 4TU, tel: 01-229 9738/9.



Pearl Kerridge of the Suffolk Deaf Association, "talks" to Linda and Jack Kirk (inset).

Signs of the times for deaf phone users

A unique system of cartoon pictures on miniature television screens, which could allow deaf people to communicate over the ordinary phone network using sign language, was unveiled at the end of July by British Telecom.

The experimental equipment has been tested by the Suffolk Deaf Association. Social worker Pearl Kerridge has been having regular "conversations" with two members, Jack and Linda Kirk, from the Association's headquarters in Ipswich to the Kirk's home in Rushmere St Andrew, near Ipswich.

Their hand movements have been transmitted by a process of picture compression which gives a moving black and white outline or cartoon. It depicts the main facial characteristics and hand movements sufficiently for the receiver to be able to recognise the caller and understand the message.

The system has been de-

veloped by BT's research scientists in collaboration with Essex University.

Although it will not be on the market for many years a larger trial, involving up to 50 participants, is being planned.

About a quarter of a million people in the UK suffer from hearing loss which makes it difficult or impossible for them to use the phone.

★ A new service from BT that is benefitting visually impaired people is Talking Pages, based on Yellow Pages. An information base covering 170,000 businesses in Birmingham, Bristol and Brighton, it can be accessed from anywhere in the UK and includes information on parking, access, and hotel facilities.

Call Bristol (0272) 299992, Brighton (0273) 542222 or

Birmingham 021-711 1177 from 8am to 9pm seven days a week.

Although BT has announced price increases of about 5.5 per cent from the beginning of September, it is increasing the low user rental rebate. Anyone who uses less than 120 call units per quarter will have their rebate increased from 3.6p per unit to 5.2p per unit.

Correction. The Association of Reflexologists has moved to 27 Old Gloucester Street, London WC1 3XX.

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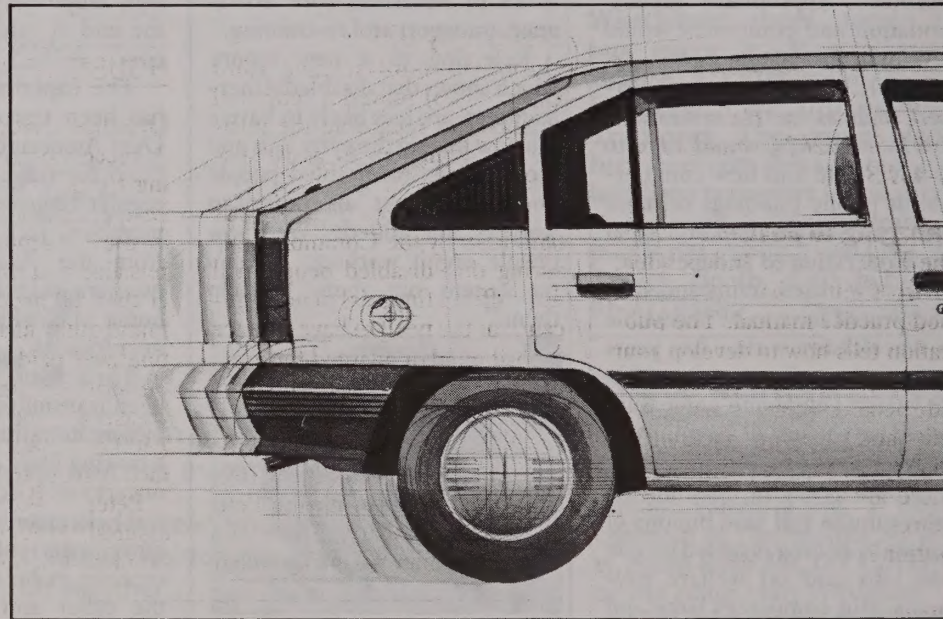
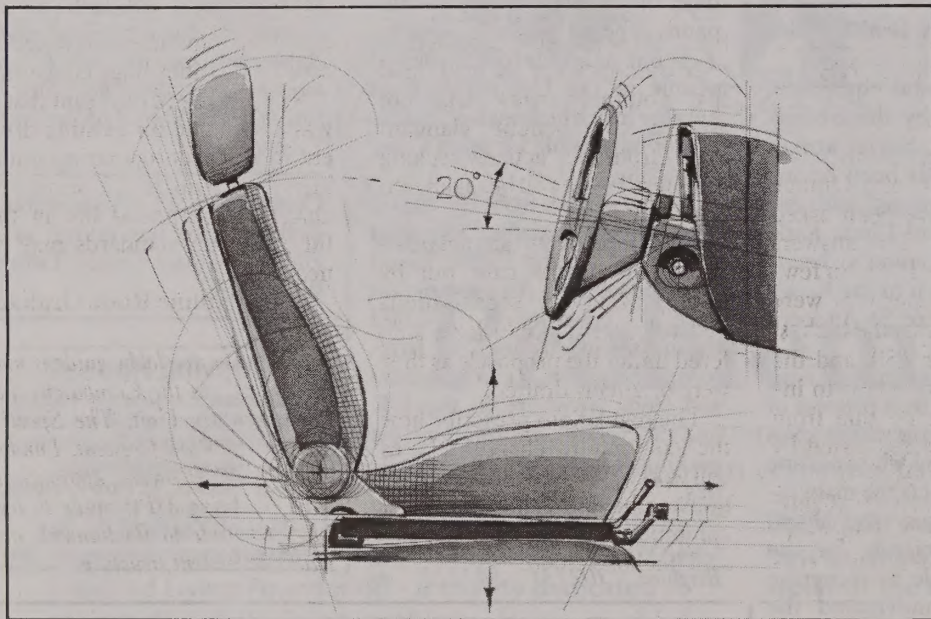
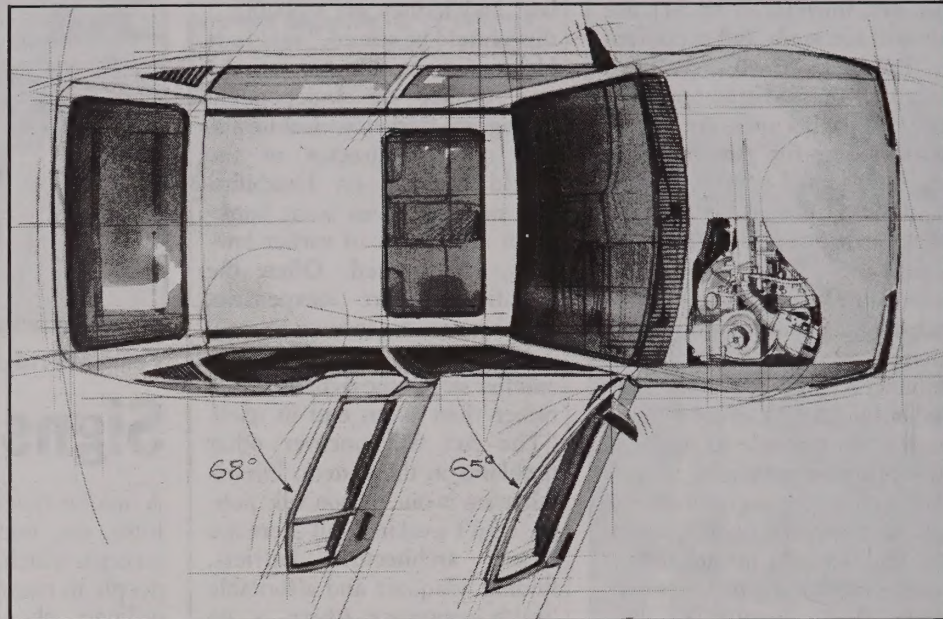
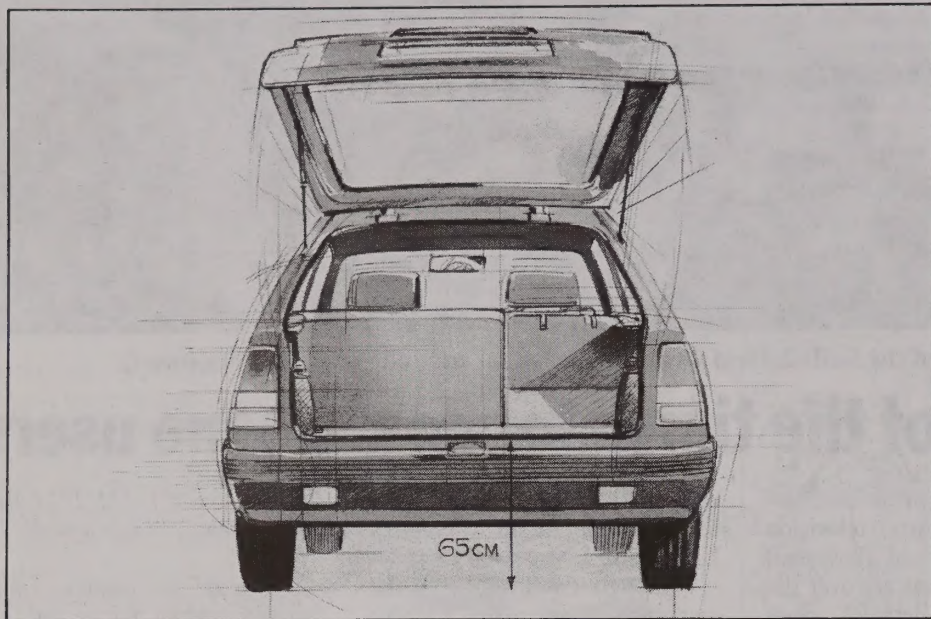
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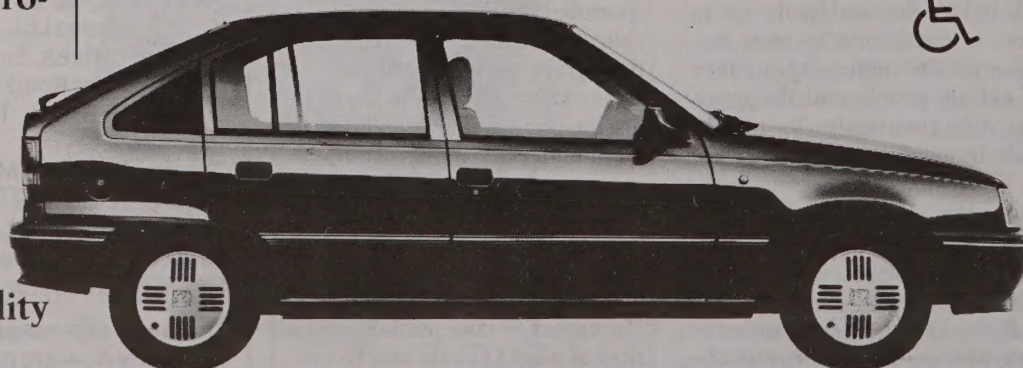
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IN BRIEF

Orange Badge decision

Alison Wright, 27, who has short arms due to thalidomide, has won a case against losing her Orange Badge. It was removed three years ago because she has no difficulty in walking.

But West Sussex County Council has restored it, after deciding that Alison needs it since she has difficulty carrying shopping.

The move is a breakthrough for an estimated 120 other thalidomide drivers.

Arthritis research

One in seven people in the UK has some form of arthritis, according to a forthcoming report from Arthritis Care. It has announced a £20,000 research fund sponsored by drugs manufacturer G.D. Searle to discover more about its members' needs. Five hundred questionnaires have gone to people with arthritis covering pain management, motor ability and drug therapy. The finished report will be out in Arthritis Care week (18-23 September).

G.D. Searle/Arthritis Care Research Fellowship: Helen Wright, tel: 01-831 6262 or Monica Hart, 01-431 3724.

Managing to advise

The Federation of Independent Advice Centres has produced a good practice manual. The publication tells how to develop your own advice service, how to deal with people, policy, money, benefits and planning, and how to administer an advice centre. There are now over 500 FIAC centres in the UK, and the organisation is 10 years old.

Managing to Advise, £4.50 from FIAC, 13 Stockwell Road, London SW9 9AU, tel: 01-274 1878.

Social workers for deaf people

The Department of Health has given central funding to an Open University diploma course for social workers who want to work with profoundly deaf people.

The money, £328,000, will go towards the development costs of the course from 1990-1993. It will start in January 1991 and is the first such specialist course since 1984.

Easy reading for adults

Funded by the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust Foundation and the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit, the Book Trust Project are compiling a directory of books, software and resources able to help teenagers and adults with a mental handicap that affects reading.

The Project seek material successfully used by people with a mental handicap for leisure, training or education.

Margaret Marshall, 6a Harmer Green Lane, Digswell, Welwyn, Herts AL6 0AD. Audio-visual and software information to Dorothy Porter, 32 Briarwood Drive, Wibsey, Bradford BD6 1RT, West Yorkshire.

Success for UK team at wheelchair games

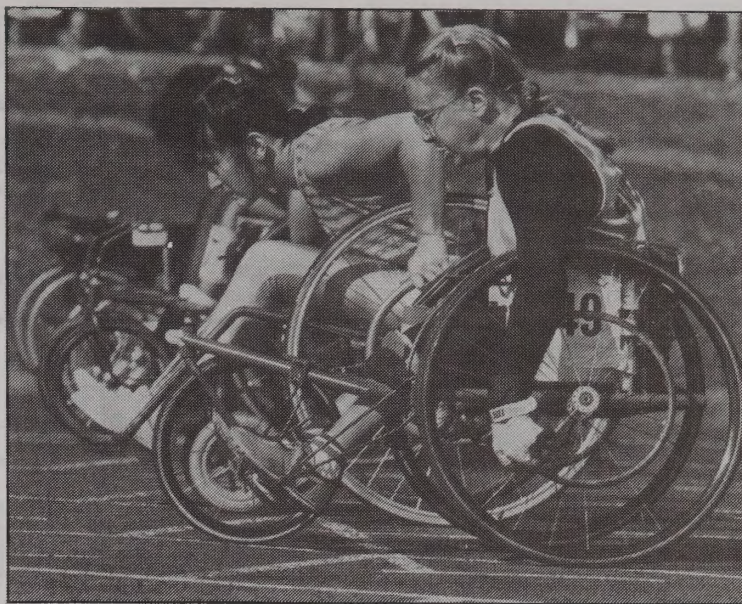
The UK team battled their way up from an early fourth to finish first in the 1989 World Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Games in July.

Six hundred and thirty athletes from 39 countries took part in the Games, which lasted for seven days. Teams from France, Brazil and the States lay above the British competitors after the first three days of the event, but striking performances in the field, in shooting, archery, swimming, snooker, weightlifting and bowls lifted the team to head the final table.

Gold medal-winning efforts

came from Martin Ina in javelin and shot, Deanna Coates in shooting, Karen Watts in archery, Andrew Blake and Mark Butler in the swimming pool, and the British bowling pairs team (among many others).

Sprinter Linford Christie, in opening the Games, said: "We are all 'able' through our sport... The great thing is to gain the respect of your fellow athletes." And Sports Minister Colin Moynihan in closing the Games said: "You as sportsmen and women prove you are as capable of winning friends as you are medals."



Chariots of power: competitors in the women's 100m heats at Stoke Mandeville.

THE TIMES



IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF LORDS

Electricity Bill

During its third reading Lord Carter (Lab) moved a redrafted amendment regarding the positioning of meters to assist disabled people.

This was agreed by the Lords (and later by the Commons) ensuring that disabled people will not suffer a financial penalty because of the need to have a meter repositioned or adapted for use.

The Peto Institute

Lord Auckland (Cons) asked for the latest information on Britain's relationship with the Peto Institute in Hungary.

Lord Henley (Cons) replied

that the Hungarian government is proposing an International Centre at Peto in order to meet the increasing overseas demand and to spread the philosophy of conductive education internationally.

The British government hopes to negotiate a UK contribution, said Lord Henley, and have some collaboration with the Peto Institute before 1992.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Orange Badge

A succession of questions relating to the abuse of the Orange Badge scheme have been asked in the Commons. The answers revealed that from 1983-86 fewer than 20 people per year were found guilty of abuse; the highest fine ever paid was £50, and the Government has no plans to increase the maximum fine from £400 to £2,000 as requested by Jack Ashley (Lab).

Peter Bottomley (Cons) assured Mr Ashley that the Government has no intention of res-

tricting orange badges to those who receive Mobility Allowance and that on no account would rationing of badges occur in order to avoid overloading the scheme (see also page 10).

Draft regulations

The draft regulations for Social Security, Income Support and Community Charge benefits, which clarify the Secretary of State's powers, were accepted.

Nicholas Scott (Cons) said that voluntary work will not absolve the benefit claimant totally from the "actively seeking work test" but it will be taken into consideration.

This represents an acknowledgement of the case put by leading voluntary organisations that volunteers would have suffered under the proposals as they were originally drafted.

The regulations prescribe how the community charge rebates will work. "We expect virtually all housing benefit claimants to get community charge benefits," said Nicholas Scott.

Driving

In answer to a question on an EEC proposal to prevent people who are deaf or hard of hearing from driving minibuses, light and heavy goods vehicles, Peter Bottomley told Keith Vaz (Lab) that the Government is seeking to preserve existing licensing arrangements as far as possible.

The EEC proposal for a special licence category for trained drivers of minibuses was noted as causing charities huge concern.

Roger King (Cons) said that it was acceptable for existing drivers to continue operating minibuses with up to 17 seats (for charitable purposes) but in the future higher standards may be necessary.

Pauline Rona Graham

A comprehensive lobby guide is now available from the Campaigns and Parliamentary Unit, The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ. It covers: approaching MPs; lobbying MPs; guide to legislation; guide to Parliament, and local government structure.

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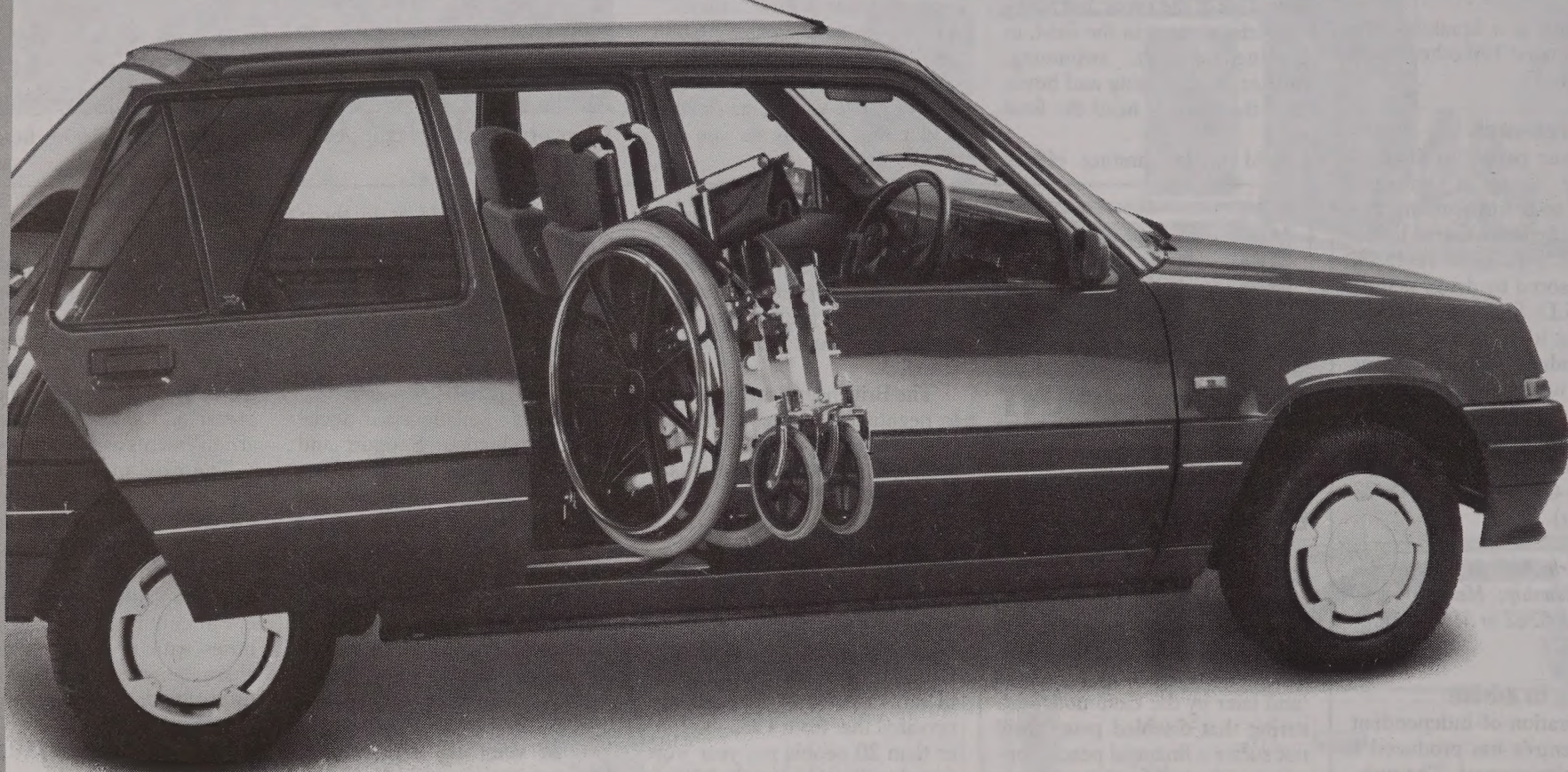
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THERE'S MORE
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Deaf children lose out on funding

Deaf children's independence is being reduced because the amount of money local authorities in Great Britain and Ireland spend on hearing and environmental aids varies wildly.



Richard Stacey, 21, who is deaf, has passed his HGV test after first being refused a provisional licence. He took his case against discrimination to court and won. Sheffield lorry company Tufnells then paid for his driving lessons.

A report by the National Deaf Children's Society found that the money allocated by local authorities in the financial year 1988/89 varied from a minimal £550 to "no limit".

Local authorities are meant to assess and provide aids and adaptations for deaf children under the 1970 Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons Act.

One Scottish county with a small population had a budget of £22,000 for hearing aids, while a northern English county had £2,000 for a population exactly double the size.

"It appears that the level of expenditure on aids is not related to the size of the population, but to the generosity of the local authority," says the report.

The survey found that many social services departments operate a standing order contract with manufacturers and suppliers to get a discount. "This," it says, "is an unfortunate step because it concentrates on a small number of manufacturers, so reducing competition and stifling innovation."

It also makes it more difficult for new products to penetrate the market.

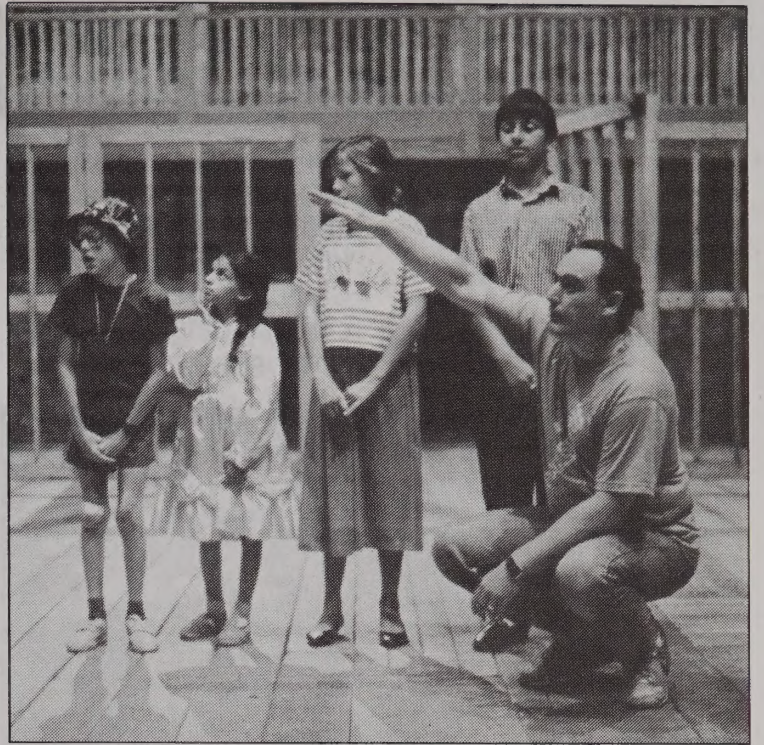
NDCS sent out 216 questionnaires to social services departments; 114 were returned, a 53 per cent response.

It says that one of the major problems social workers and technical officers face is a lack of training in technological aids and new technology. Most select products on the basis of information from manufacturers and suppliers, so they have no means of comparing the merits of each product.

The report concludes: "It is essential that consumers and professionals seek information on what is new, where to get it from and how much it costs."

"There should be more opportunity for deaf children to say what they want rather than be told what they should have."

A Good Deal for Deaf Children, free from NDCS Technical Information Centre, 4 Church Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 3TD, tel: 021-454 5151.



Children from George Auden School for the visually handicapped visit the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford. Tony Hill hosted the access day, sponsored by Royal Insurance.

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Women start networking

Claire Glasman reports
Sixteen women with disabilities from nine European countries met in Strasbourg this June to set up DISWEB - European Network of Women with Disabilities.

Sponsored by Mobility International, this fourth meeting put into practise the independence of women with disabilities. After disagreement about mixed workshops at the last conference, we had decided that helpers could attend and discuss, but not vote.

Because of this, a Maltese organisation refused to let women with disabilities attend.

Marja from Finland reported that the national cerebral palsy organisation had reverted from partial representation of people with disabilities to an executive of able-bodied white men.

Women described isolation and frustration - being bypassed in mixed disability organisations, and ignored by women's groups.

The network agreed to:

- raise awareness of issues concerning women with disabilities
- provide international support for each other, and for our campaigns,
- highlight effects of cuts and legislation
- maintain and extend support for the struggles of women in Third World countries.

We also thrashed out our policies, structure, working groups and finances.

Simultaneous translation meant immediate exchange despite the language barrier.

Women of all ages and disabilities are welcome to join DISWEB. Membership, including newsletter, costs £4.50 per year. Another conference is planned for 1990. For more details contact WinVisible, 71 Tonbridge Street, London WC1H 9DZ, tel: 01-837 7509.



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Robin Hood Games



Beryl Leaver reports on a strong sporting challenge at the International Robin Hood Games for people with cerebral palsy, held at Nottingham in July.



The effort showing on the faces of the male athletes.



Barclays Bank chairman John Quniton (left) with runner Steven Syndacombe (centre), Paralympic gold medallist, and Douglas Shapland chairman of The Spastics Society. Barclays is sponsoring CP Sport for the next three years.

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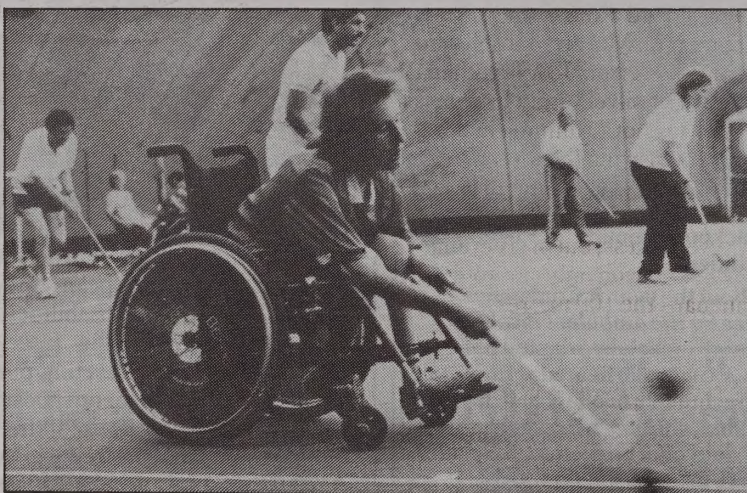


Months of training have led up to this moment for the women athletes (above) and Irish shotputter (right).

T. BAILEY FORMAN

The 10 day gathering, the biggest of its kind ever held in the UK, involved more than 500 disabled sportspeople from 27 countries – China, Hong Kong, the USA, Greece, Korea,

Centred on Trent Polytecnic, the event was jointly organised and funded by Cerebral Palsy Sport (an arm of The Spastics Society) and Nottingham city and county councils. And for the first time,



A warm-up session for the wheelchair hockey.

Iceland and Kuwait as well as other Commonwealth and EEC countries.

Eight disciplines were covered: track, field, swimming, power lifting, table tennis, boccia, cycling and water sports.

the European Community gave a generous £22,000 donation.

The event was designed to give young sports people the opportunity to gain experience of first-class competition. They performed alongside such



The effort

Paralympic veterans as Michael Walker (England) who was defending his four field event gold medals and world record.

Also competing were Paul Williams, winner of three gold medals and a silver in Korea, and Colin Keay (Scotland) hoping to retain his three world records following gold medal wins in track events. Eyes were also on West German swimming champion Michael Quickert.

The games got off to a spectacular start on 22 July as the squads made their way past the Lord Lieutenant and Lord Mayor of Nottingham, Chairman of The Spastics Society Douglas Shapland and Vice President of CP-ISRA (International Sports and Recreation Association) Elizabeth Dendy.

Barclays Bank is sponsoring CP Sport for the next three years and the East Midlands director of Barclays, Terry Bradley, was at the opening ceremony to present a £150,000 cheque.

Sporting contest began in earnest the following day with athletics, boccia, cycling and

The thinking behind the Games

The International Robin Hood Games have been two years in the making and two men – Howard Bailey, manager of CP Sport, and Colin Rains of CP-ISRA (International Sports and Recreation Association) – have been the driving force behind the scenes.

They were united in one idea: not only must experienced and talented athletes be given support, but up and coming youngsters must also be allowed to participate in international competition.

They spent the run up to the event giving people with cerebral palsy new to disabled sport the grassroots experience to enable them to face strong competition.

Howard Bailey joined The Spastics Society five years ago, but it is in the last 18 months, he feels, that CP Sport has developed into an "organisation within an organisation". It has its own regional groups, sports co-

ordinators, national coaches, classification panels and technical groups.

The overall aim has been to integrate as far as possible with mainstream sport. However, Howard Bailey (below) believes the wide range of disability displayed by people with cerebral



palsy puts them in a unique position. He questions whether it is possible to measure the skill of a cp athlete against an athlete in multiply disabled games.

The classification workshops

at the Games gave experts the chance to come to grips with the need for an appropriate classification system.

The Robin Hood Games, said Howard Bailey, were an excellent opportunity to show the world how Britain understands the realities of disabled sporting competition.

"If we are to have international understanding, it is important to realise that CP Sport is not elitist. We must stretch our imaginations to take into account those with smaller ambitions as well as the record holders who will be looking forward to the next Paralympics in Barcelona."

Colin Rains is a volunteer with CP-ISRA, and he speaks well of the collaboration with CP Sport: "We have had a good working relationship and forged good links. The Games have formed a springboard from which people with cerebral palsy can continue to develop their sporting skills."



...and the reward

table tennis. Little Zoe Edge, 14½, was among the youngest competitors, and was delighted to represent England in the individual boccia competition. She won a silver, beaten by Gary Ragland (USA) with Bart Sarazen (Belgium) and Sarah Baker (England) joint third.

At the other end of the scale Paul Williams (England) hung onto his world record of 55.02 metres in the men's club. Colin Keay broke his own world record in the 400 metres class 6 running final. Scotland were also in the news with Ann Woffindon taking a new world record in the

woman's class 2 shot putt of 2.92 metres.

Another well known name in disabled sport is Tony Honour – he got a silver for England, beaten in the table tennis final by Denmark's Per Jacobson.

England's swimming champion Martin Mansell who came back from Korea with one gold, two silvers and a bronze last year was not swimming in the Games leaving the way open for Michael Quickert and the Dane Anders Christensen. Nevertheless, out of six events Quickert won only one gold medal – the 100 metres



Celebrations for Canadian swimmer Tammy Caines (left) and Australians Catherine Huggett and David Smith.



Paul Hancock. Diary below.

Robin Hood Games



backcrawl – while Christenson took the other five.

In the javelin class 4 (men and women) Michael Walker (England) lost his world record to Antoine Delaune of France. In the women's javelin class 4 a new world record was set by M. Willms of West Germany.

Also in field events, Michael Walker held his world record in the club class 4. In javelin class 6 a world record was made by the Kuwaiti Fahed Altmutairi. Other world records were set by Judy Goodrich of Canada in the women's class 8 javelin and Giovanni Iancono of Italy in the class 5 discus (men and women).

Running in tandem with the games were an exhibition on sports and leisure equipment, a symposium on boccia and classification workshops. Plus a riding display and a day of canoeing and rafting at the National Water Sports Centre in

Nottingham were on offer.

Although not competing, leading field and track athlete Dr Ann Trotman was present.

Recently awarded the MBE for services to sport, she said: "A lot of dedication, commitment and financial support have gone into the creation of the Robin Hood Games.

"All those involved have, very gratifyingly, championed the cause: no matter how severe a person's disability, everyone should have the chance of competing in sport at grassroot or international level."



The England and Wales team at the opening ceremony.

Diary of a competitor

Swimmer Paul Hancock, from Cleethorpes, is ranked number three in the world and is already a veteran of both national and international competitions. This is his diary of the Robin Hood Games.

22 July. We had our first training session at Beechdale Swimming Pool. Came back just in time for the opening ceremony. It was spectacular but nothing like Seoul.

23 July. Went to the Northern Baths for our final preparations and then to Clifton Swimming Centre to watch the water classification. That was where I swam in my first swimming gala eight or nine years ago – good memories.

24 July. Big day for me – the swimming gala. Mixed feelings. I realised I was in seven races. Arrived at Beechdale for a warm-up and I felt pretty good about it. First race was the 100m freestyle. Felt 100 per cent for the first time in three years. Good start and I was swimming easily and comfortably. I nearly stopped on the third turn for some reason but corrected myself in time. Completed the race in 1 min 22 secs. I won. Nearly cried but managed to hold the tears back. Swam in three more events. In the 3 x 50m relay I was swimming backstroke and made a bad start; at the turn it all went wrong and I was disqualified. Apologised to the team. The men's team won a silver medal in 4 x 50m freestyle relay and the mixed team won the 8 x 25m freestyle. In the end

England and Wales won eight gold medals, six silver and eight bronze. I won five golds and one silver. I had managed to keep my strength together to win six medals. Tired but over the moon.

25 July. A day out for most of us at the National Water Sports Centre – glorious day. I went speeding on a speedboat normally used for rescues. Also went on the raft and everybody got wet. Superb day out. In the evening I went to be classified for the new system. I was a bit concerned about which class I was going to be in.

26 July. Training at Northern Baths. Team photos with our medals, then some free time. I went to the bar with friends.

27 July. Experimental swimming gala. Made times similar to Monday 24th for 100m backstroke and freestyle but went for 100m breaststroke. Came last in race but first overall. My coach Jim Jarman came to watch.

28 July. Free time again.

29 July. My birthday. 20 years old. At the team meeting everyone sang Happy Birthday and Martin Mansell came in as a surprise and cracked open a bottle of champagne. I shook the bottle and sprayed it at everybody. Went to the closing ceremony. We leave tomorrow.



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Letters to the Editor

Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ

Orange Badge proposals

I read in *Disability Now* (June) that the Government is proposing that only people getting mobility allowance will be eligible for an orange badge.

This dismayed me. I have a full leg amputation and because I can actually walk am not eligible for a mobility allowance.

However, I do have a walking distance limit and the convenience of special parking allowances helps me to lead a reasonable life. It is particularly helpful when I am shopping because I find it extremely difficult to carry heavy shopping any distance.

Like many disabled people I pride myself on leading a busy and independent life, but if I found myself trying to cope in North London with no parking privileges my life would become exhausting and more limited.

The talk of Orange Badge abuse puzzles me. I am sure doctors don't recommend anyone who applies. If some unscrupulous people misuse a friend's or family member's badge, I can't see what is gained by withdrawing badges from amputees like myself.

I have written to my MP.
Norma Moran
London N2

We have had several letters from worried readers - Editor.

Threat to deaf viewers' TV

The Government White Paper on Broadcasting emphasises increasing competition and choice. In order to compete effectively, each TV channel will

have to achieve as high a viewing figure as possible. That means concentrating more on "popular" strands and less on expensive services which interest only a few people.

The more this is done, the less money there will be for minority viewers, including deaf viewers.

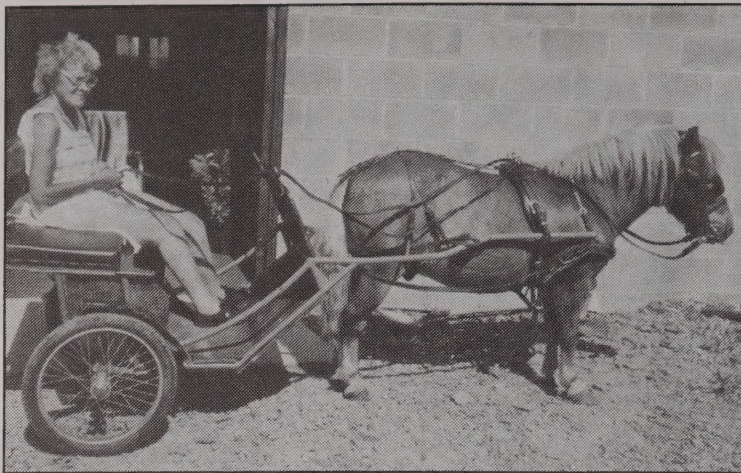
Some may reject this view, but the Deaf Broadcasting Council has evidence to back it up.

The 1984 Cable and Broadcasting Act has a permissive clause which says that deaf people's needs should be considered. So far not one cable TV operator has been known to do anything positive.

This shows that there is only one safe way forward - a mandatory requirement that TV channel operators must make their programmes accessible by using Teletext subtitles, sign language or whatever.

At first the Government refused to accept this, saying it was the broadcaster's responsibility to decide on the amount of subtitling. Now our case has been accepted and they have proposed that ITV's subtitles should increase by 10 per cent in the first year after the Act starts.

Ten per cent is far too low - at today's figures only 1.5 extra hours a week - and there are other areas to consider: no mention has been made about BBC, Channel 4 or cable/satellite channels; what about open subtitles (like Newsview) or sign language? What about a requirement that the whole range of programming should be covered like live current affairs?



Anne Pridmore enjoying herself at Blaen Wern Farm.

Although the Government's proposal is not nearly enough, it is an important breakthrough because the principle has been established.

Austin Reeves
Secretary
Deaf Broadcasting Council

Carefree holiday

I have just spent a very enjoyable holiday at Blaen Wern Farm Centre, Llanybydder, Dyfed.

As I am sure your readers will appreciate, holidays for people with a disability are hard to find.

Blaen Wern is a 155 acre stock farm and the centre is purpose built. Its aim, to enable inner city children to have a holiday in the country, was extended to include people with a handicap and also the able-bodied. True integration is the essence of the farm.

There are ten rooms of varying sizes all with *en suite* shower and toilet, heating and colour TV.

The heated swimming pool and adjacent leisure area both have direct access to the patio, providing peaceful recreation from the security and comfort of the complex.

Full board is standard and transport to and from the station can be arranged.

The most important aspect of Blaen Wern is the attitude of the family who run it towards handicapped people. They have no preconceptions about disability and consider the person instead of the handicap.

Horse riding, rides in a pony and trap, a nature trail suitable for wheelchairs are all available.

This is their first year and I would like to wish them every success.

Anne Pridmore
Market Harborough, Leics

Community charge confusion

I am writing with regard to the Community Charge and the hardship this new law will cause. As you have mentioned in your paper, physically handicapped people will get no reduction in the charge (except on the grounds of low income and low savings) and yet some mentally handicapped persons are exempt.

As you know wheelchair users, like my husband, get a rate reduction under the present rating system. In the Peterborough area, with a forecast of a £370 community charge per person, it will mean a massive increase and

considerable hardship for all these people.

I have written to my MP, Dr Brian Mawhinney, who in turn wrote to Mr John Selwyn Gummer. I asked why severely physically handicapped people should be treated differently to severely mentally handicapped people.

Needless to say the answer was not satisfactory. It all seemed to come down to the fact that physically handicapped people vote whereas mentally handicapped people could not.

I replied saying that the price of being able to vote was very expensive. I do feel that the matter of this unfair discrimination between physically and mentally handicapped people should be pursued as far as possible.

Angela Clifton
Peterborough

A free guide to the poll tax is available from Brian Lamb, Campaigns Unit, The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ.

D-a-R disappointment

I am dismayed that the London Dial-a-Ride Users Association has seen fit to employ an able-bodied director.

I am aware that Dave Wetzel gave a lot of support to Dial-a-Ride when it was funded by the now abolished GLC, and I am sure he has the best interests of disabled people at heart, but until such organisations are run by, instead of for, disabled people we will not overturn some of the stereotype images society has of disability.

Alan Soffert
Chairperson and user
Hammersmith & Fulham D-a-R

We have had so many replies to Rachel Hurst's article "Enablers not Carers" (DN July) that we will print a special page of them next month - Editor.

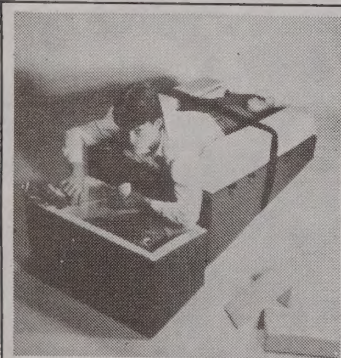
sic

Non-participation

A recent conference organised by IT World, in Edgbaston, took place in a non-wheelchair accessible venue, without benefit of signers for deaf people or braille handouts for people unable to see overhead projections. Not very surprising, except that the subject of the conference was The Disabled Persons Act 1986, which concerns participation and representation of people with disabilities. The food wasn't too good either.

Not so stylish

Despite *DN* doing a three hour interview, leading to half a day's writing, a special trip to get photos and half a page of space being left free in last month's packed issue, pop-singer Bobbi Style refused to allow *DN* to print unless he got a full-page - not the sort of behaviour guaranteed to endear him to a busy journalist with other deadlines to meet. Isn't any publicity good publicity for someone whose style could be described as pre-Madonna.



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Batteries: has the hype more power than the product?

Ian Younger reports

We are all at heart and by nature free spirits. So when illness or disability forces us to be confined indoors for any period of time, the desire to get outside again is overwhelming.

A hand-propelled wheelchair is all very well but to those unable to use both arms as they would like a powered wheelchair is an "Open Sesame" to the big wide world.

The majority of powered wheelchairs available on the market at the moment are battery-powered. This may not seem a bad thing, as they offer a relatively quiet, unobtrusive means of conveyance.

But problems arise because the power available is finite.

Government weight restrictions set the maximum unladen weight of mechanically propelled wheelchairs (known as class 2 wheelchairs) allowed on pave-

ment that given energy. In winter the available power will tend to drop to approximately half (because the chemical reaction slows down), reducing the distance the chair will travel accordingly.

Portable sealed electrolyte batteries, of the type used by people travelling in vehicles or aircraft, give 20 per cent less range than the equivalent unsealed counterpart.

As if that were not bad enough, as a battery gets older its performance begins to tail off, so that within 18 months to two years a heavily used battery becomes more likely to fail.

There are also a number of other very important factors:

- the weight of the user – the difference in range on one charge can vary by as much as 25 per cent between a 10 stone user and one of 15 stone

- the speed at which the chair is used – usually the faster it is driven, the greater the consumption of power



The Wayfarer's batteries can keep up with the competition

then impossible to recharge it again.

A further factor is that use of high speed chargers, which give a full charge in half the normal time, drastically shorten the life of batteries.

All this gives a small idea of the complexity of the problems facing a disabled person who not unnaturally wishes to use a chair to its maximum capacity.

For those who do venture far and wide on a daily basis, semi traction batteries, which can withstand prolonged cycles of heavy use, are to be recommended. Although they are not used by every manufacturer yet, one of the main battery manufacturers, Cromptons, is attempting to convert wheelchair companies to their use.

Not surprisingly a manufacturer wants to present his product in the best light and will present figures obtained under ideal conditions, which do not necessarily relate to the chair's performance in general usage.

Several years ago I bought a chair on the basis that it was advertised as being capable of travelling 20+ miles on one charge of the batteries.

In reality it kept running out of

wrong with the it, the charger or the power supply the charger was connected to.

In desperation, and on my insistence, we turned the problem over to the manufacturer, Vessa. They sent an engineer to follow me around for a week to see if I was doing anything wrong. The only comment many miles later from the footsore and weary engineer was that I seemed to be going up and down an excessive number of kerbs.

To Vessa's credit they refunded my money in full when I continued to be dissatisfied.

I found out later that the test circuit at their factory, where they checked the capacity of the chairs, comprised 10 circuits of a flat, level area at slowest speed, followed by a trip up and down their loading ramp.

If this is indicative of the whole industry, it is small wonder that estimates of the abilities of chairs can be so wildly inaccurate.

It is time for a proper test track with kerbs and hills to be built to simulate the real usage of chairs. Tests could be undertaken by independent testers and these figures could be used as petrol consumption figures are for cars.

The latest Government regulations allow an increase in overall speed for wheelchairs from six to 12 kilometres per hour for chairs being driven on the road and an overall weight in-

crease, with a new limit of 150 kg (330lbs). These chairs are designed class 3 wheelchairs.

Currently there are few chairs that are capable of being used at this speed, but hopefully it will not be too long before manufacturers make use of the increased weight allowances to use larger

CHLORIDE MOTIVE POWER BATTERIES

Offer a range of batteries with 2 year maintenance free guarantee, plus further 2 year pro rata guarantee. Range is called Trekker Monobloc:

TYPE	VOLTAGE	CAPACITY
3ET100	6	100amp/hr
3ET174	6	174amp/hr
3ET175	6	175amp/hr
3ET184	6	184amp/hr
3ET205	6	205amp/hr
6ET85	12	85amp/hr
6ET100	12	100amp/hr

capacity batteries to help improve range and reliability.

The picture regarding batteries is not totally black. A DN reader, Andrew Carman, reports that he is still using batteries, supplied and manufactured by Chloride, that were fitted to his chair six years ago. He can go 14 miles on one charge.

The answer is if you find a battery that suits your chair's requirements, stick with it.

Otherwise ask around and find out what make your friends are using. Don't skimp on the cost of batteries if you are totally reliant on a chair and get insurance cover to protect your investment and yourself against any claims that might arise.

If after all this you want to wander further afield there are petrol driven chairs, but that's another story.

OLDHAM CROMPTON BATTERIES

1 year guarantee. Independent tests have shown that after 300 days they retained 80% of their original capacity even in heavy usage.

TYPE	VOLTAGE	CAPACITY
CXL170	6	170amp/hr
CXL100	12	100amp/hr
CXL55	12	55amp/hr
CXL42	12	42amp/hr
CXL30	12	30amp/hr

These batteries are not suitable for chairs supplied with charger for use on sealed batteries.

ments at 113.4 kg (250 lbs). This stops wheelchair designers from using the optimum large capacity, heavy-duty batteries in their chairs.

This in turn governs the distance a chair will be able to travel on one charge. Recharging takes up many hours, forcing owners to use hand propelled chairs or to rely on the good will of others to push them.

Despite this, much is made by manufacturers about the distances chairs are capable of travelling on one charge.

- whether or not the surface the chair is being used on is level
- whether it is used for kerb climbing – this puts a greater drain on the batteries
- if there is a head or tail wind – a chair and occupant present a large area of resistance
- the wrong amount of air in the tyres.

Each of these factors will weigh against the overall distance a chair can travel.

Most battery chargers supplied by chair manufacturers are incapable of recharging a battery

CHAIR	NO. OF BATTERIES	VOLT-AGE	CAPAC-ITY	CONSUMPTION: @ SPEEDS		RANGE	WEIGHT OF TEST DRIVER
				SLOW	FAST		
Commodore	2	12	60amp/hr	5amp/hr	—	up to 30 miles	—
Commuter	2	12	—	—	—	up to 20 miles	—
Cruiser	2	12	24amp/hr	—	—	up to 12 miles	—
Crusader	2	12	55amp/hr	—	—	up to 18 miles	10 stone
Mobilbug	2	12	38amp/hr	6amp/hr	10amp/hr	up to 14 miles	10 stone
Travla	2	12	30amp/hr	3.5amp/hr	6amp/hr	up to 10 miles	11 stone
Vitesse III	2	12	42amp/hr	5amp/hr	9amp/hr	up to 16 miles	11 stone
Vitesse 2000	2	12	36amp/hr	5amp/hr	9amp/hr	up to 12 miles	11 stone
Trekka	2	12	80amp/hr	8amp/hr	12amp/hr	up to 18 miles	11 stone
Ventura	3	12	30amp/hr	5amp/hr	9amp/hr	up to 15 miles	11 stone
Sportster	2	12	60amp/hr	2-4amp/hr	—	up to 40 miles	12-13 stone
Safari electric	2	12	100amp/hr	—	—	up to 30 miles	11 stone
Whisper	—	12	40amp/hr	2amp/hr	6amp/hr	up to 23 miles	11 stone
Liberty	—	12	40amp/hr	3amp/hr	6amp/hr	up to 23 miles	11 stone
Batricar popular	2	12	50amp/hr	8amp/hr	10amp/hr	up to 20 miles	12 stone
Batricar DL3	2	12	70amp/hr	12amp/hr	13amp/hr	up to 20 miles	12 stone
Beta scooter	2	12	38amp/hr	5amp/hr	6amp/hr	up to 10 miles	12 stone
Poweride popular	2	12	50amp/hr	8amp/hr	10amp/hr	up to 20 miles	12 stone
Poweride deluxe	2	12	70amp/hr	12amp/hr	13amp/hr	up to 20 miles	12 stone
Wayfarer	2	12	60amp/hr	1amp/hr	5amp/hr	up to 40 miles	12 stone

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All too few seem to live up to their maker's claims. There are a variety of reasons for this.

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Winners of the *DN* Christmas card competition

Mary Wilkinson reports

The first Christmas card competition organised by *DN* attracted over 500 entries from artists with disabilities, and as one judge said, "There was blood on the ground" when it came to whittling down the shortlist to two winners and five runners-up.

They all came to London last month to receive their certificates from HRH The Prince of Wales.

The winner in the adult section of the competition is **Mary K Older** from Neath Hill, Milton Keynes, who has cp and is deaf. She painted "Children playing" with her toes.

Mary, it turns out, has had other successes with her Christmas cards and an earlier brush with fame. When she was 17 she designed a card by typing with her toes. Cliff Richard saw it and put in an order for 700 cards there and then.

Winner (18 and over)

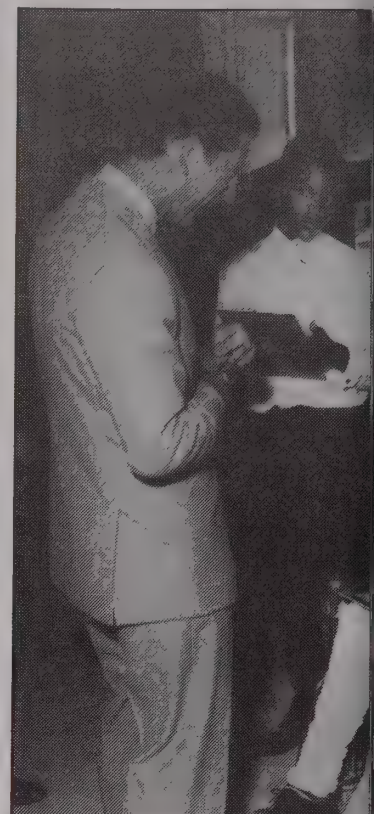


"Children playing" by Mary K Older

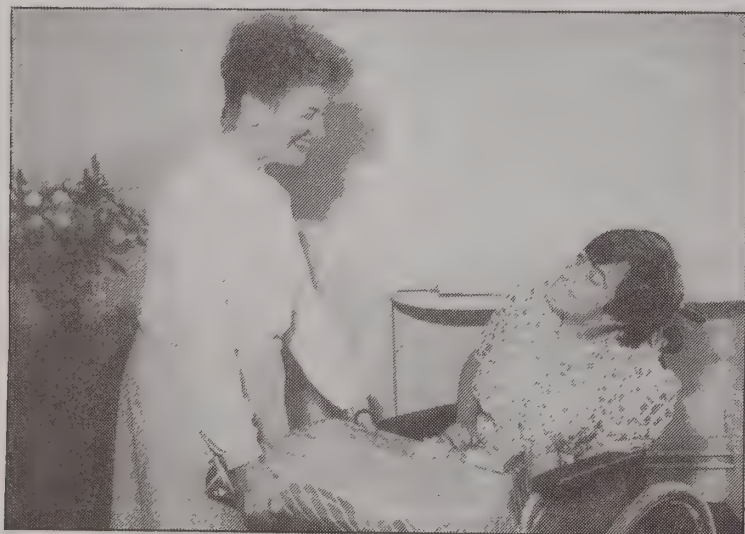
Winner (under 18)



"Snowman" by Emeka Nwosu



The Prince jokes with Antony S. career, while Emeka Nwosu and



Valerie Lang presents Mary Older with her prize.

"I'm pleased my picture was chosen because it is about integration," she said. "I was put out that Barnardo's was doing away with the poor little child image and also the wheelchair. I wanted to show that a wheelchair does not necessarily symbolise the poor little child. It can symbolise that we are people just like anyone else."

Because her feet wobble, Mary always thought she couldn't paint, but after a year at an art centre for able-bodied people she decided to try.

Mary's picture will be printed on 10,000 of *DN*'s Christmas cards and she also won £100 worth of art equipment.

The winner in the under-18 section of the competition is **Emeka Nwosu** (12) from Nigeria. He goes to Craig y Parc school, Cardiff.

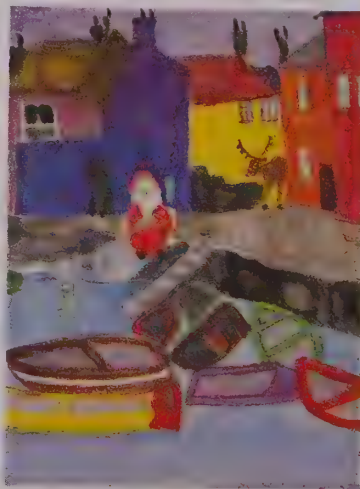
Emeka, who also has cp and is deaf, has many talents. He won a silver for shotput at the under-16s Friendly Games in Budapest earlier this year and won a fishing competition in June.

Emeka likes painting and crafts. But his first love is music ("Michael Jackson, Five Star") so he was really pleased to get a



The Prince of Wales congratulates winner Mary Older, while a runner-up, Vera Bracher, waits her turn.

Runners-up . . . runners-up . . . runners-up



"Father Christmas fishing" Peter Farrell



"Returning from church" Antony Standen



"Star over the world" Bill Dickson

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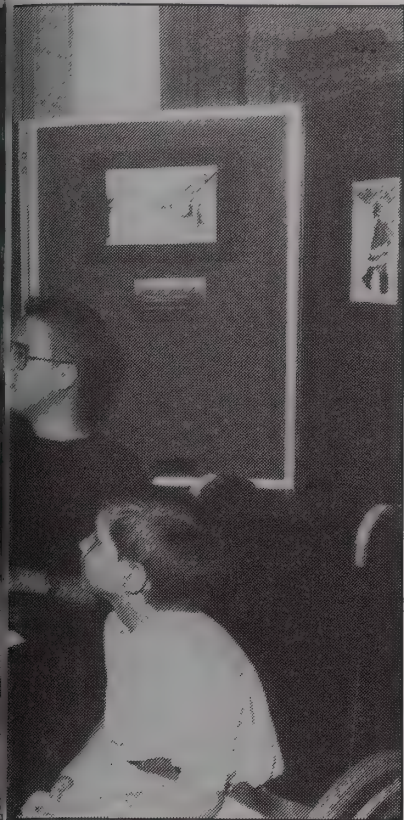
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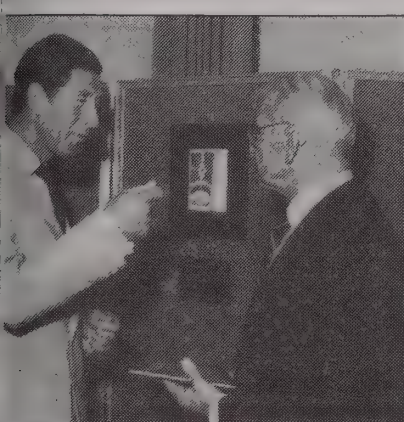
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on come to London



tre), who's hoping to make art his
ones listen in.



from left: Adam Reynolds, William Buchanan, Valerie Lang, Mary
on

runners-up . . . runners-up . . .

huge radio/cassette player for his prize. His "Snowman" will also be printed on 10,000 cards.

There were three runners-up in the adult section.

Vera Bracher, from Wanstead in London, painted a "Snow scene" of people walking in the sunshine.

Vera is retired and uses a wheelchair. She learned of the competition at a centre where she goes twice a week to do painting and marquetry.

The second runner-up is **Bill Dickson**, a retired architect from Edinburgh, who is deaf.

He makes a Christmas card every year for his wife Martha. "It's a mistake to do anything for a wife because it becomes expected," he said, with a twinkle. "With birthdays and Valentine cards it's non-stop."

What spare time he has is taken up painting. He works in water colour and oils.

Peter Farrell from Weymouth painted a most original picture in bright colours of Father Christmas fishing in a harbour with a stocking.

Peter has neuresthenia and when his parents died he went to live with Len Knight, who came with him to the presentation.

Mr Knight introduced him to felt tip pens and then to copying Christmas cards and later he did his own. Peter now lives in sheltered accommodation.

One of the two runners-up in

The finer points of painting:
the Prince with Bill Dickson.

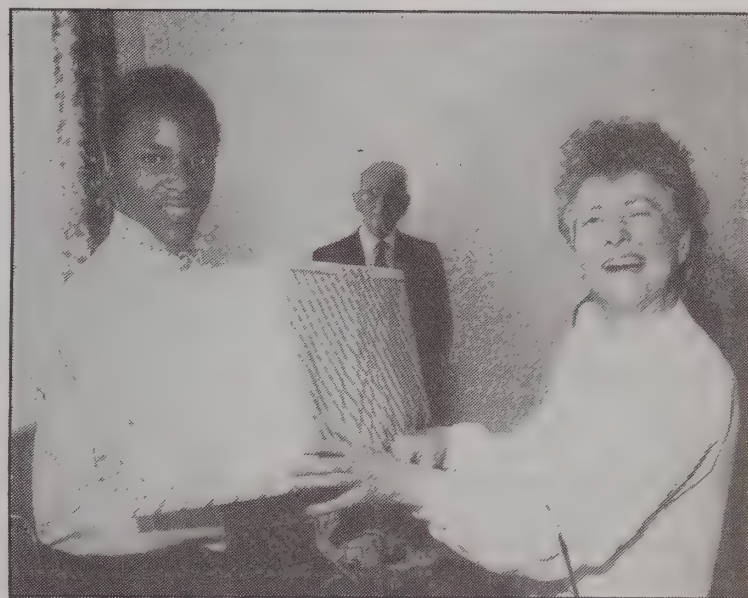


Cheese please: winners and helpers. From left, back row: Len Knight, Kate Matthews, Bill Dickson, Peter Farrell, Barry Barnes, Debra Fillary, Amanda Dwyer, Emeka Nwosu, Mrs Tessie Nwosu, Mrs Pauline Standen. Front row: Mary Older, Vera Bracher, Christian Jones and Antony Standen.

the under-18 section of the competition is **Antony Standen**, now 18, who painted "Returning from church" while he was at Lord Mayor Treloar College in Hampshire. "I normally don't do that style. I do abstracts with acrylics and gouache," he said.

Antony, who has muscular dystrophy, plans a career as an illustrator. He has taken "A" levels in painting and the history of art and has also won prizes for his art.

Christian Jones (7) is the youngest runner-up. He has cp and was a new boy at Craig y Park school last term where he did "Father Christmas". Now he's into Michael Jackson and sport - "wheelchair racing" . . . also beating up judges!



Emeka Nwosu gets a huge radio/cassette player.

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"Snow scene"
Vera Bracher



"Father Christmas"
Christian Jones

TELEVISION



Because of *My Left Foot*, (see right) reviewing *The Raging Moon* (BBC1, 3 August) seems appropriate.

The first surprise was that it was in colour. Mentally I had relegated it to the black and white category of *Reach for the Sky* or *Johnny Belinda*. The attitudes might be those of the earlier films, but it looks disconcertingly modern (it was made in 1970).

And the stereotypes portrayed are not just disability based, but also time-locked. Thus, the leading character is a typical macho, arrogant male of the period, even before he gains a disability. This arrogance, of course, intensifies and becomes more bitter, nurtured by reactions to his disability.

It is the post-disability anger which will probably seem timeless to the average viewer, conditioned to the "Isn't it a tragedy!" syndrome still prevalent in today's media.

If this had simply been about a 60s man/woman relationship it would merely seem nostalgic and dated. Yet the man and woman have a disability, so this constraint is not thought relevant.

The majority of readers may never have heard of *The James Whale Radio Show* (ITV, 30 June). Yes, it is a radio programme – broadcast on two northern radio stations – but is simultaneously televised nationally, live between 1.00 and 2.00 am.

James Whale is canny, provocative, and controversial. Hence, sexuality and disability became a suitable topic. He talked to Morgan Williams (SPOD) and Heather Clarke (previously seen jumping out of an aeroplane on last year's *People* series!). Heather matched James, despite such questions as "Can disabled people have sex, then?"

The subject should be tackled, but by another programme. Still, exchanges between Heather and James were exemplary. Wogan should take note!

In *Everest – the Hardest Way* (BBC1, 2 August), John Hawkrige, who has cp, walked up part of Mount Everest. No mean feat.

But he and I have different precepts in life, and so it is difficult to identify with him. I think he regards this sort of activity as proof of his credibility in society, lest people assume he is a wimpish, disabled person. His achievement is undeniable, but his disability attitude questionable.

Chris Davies

A trust fund is being set up in memory of poet **Simon Brisenden** (DN July). Cheques should be made payable to the Simon Brisenden Independent Living Trust and sent to: 6 Southview, Broadmayne, Dorchester, Dorset.

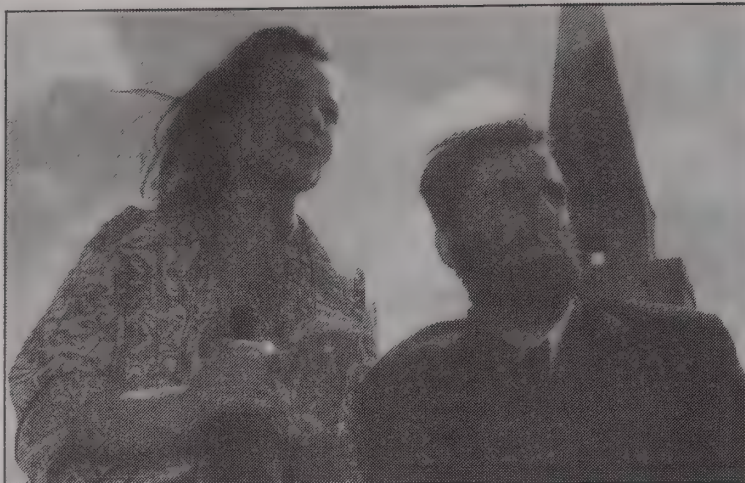
FILM

My left foot

My Left Foot, based on Irish writer/artist Christy Brown's autobiography, is essentially about communication.

Christy (Daniel Day Lewis) had cerebral palsy, and first used his left foot to write with chalk, thus "proving" his intelligence and gaining rare recognition from his father (Ray McAnally) – "You're a real Brown now". Later he learnt to paint and type, so developing great creative powers.

The film's appeal is the charisma and complexity of Christy – a wit, a drinker, an artist. Detail of moments from the Brown's household, a large, poverty-stricken Irish family



Champagne and sexuality: Christy and Mary pop corks while the sun shines to celebrate their engagement.

show disability "as it is", particularly in terms of relationships.

Even issues of sexuality are raised although undermined by the happy-ever-after ending: Christy and his wife-to-be Mary

Carr (Ruth McCabe) popping the champagne corks.

Had disabled actors played Christy, I suspect disability issues would have been explored more fully and the film would have become an unequivocal

celebration of disabled artistic talent.

Day Lewis's performance was good, although Hugh O'Connor, as the young Christy, was not convincing.

Without Day Lewis, *My Left Foot* would probably not have been made. This would have been a great loss, for while not breaking the mould of disability films, *My Left Foot* brings cp, never a popular disability, to the screen in an acceptable, thought-provoking way.

Given the content of the film, and the controversy it has aroused about whether there was a disabled actor who could play the part, it is a great shame, if not injustice, that the film is being used to raise money for hi-tech medical research rather than to develop training and job opportunities for disabled actors and artists.

Ruth Bailey



The final set in Thomas Delarue's *Sky High*.

EMMA CLARKE

THEATRE

Sky High

Sky High – a drama extravaganza set in the grounds of Thomas Delarue School in Kent on 21 August – was a unique collaboration between The Major Road Theatre Company, other artistic professionals and about 60 young disabled people.

It began outside with sinister-looking wrapped up buildings, and groups of scientists labelling various items. We were in an area of "temporal disturbance", where time had become confused, and there was no indication of what lay ahead.

A 550 strong audience was then subjected to "throbbing greenhouse A", lit by a revolving light and pouring red smoke, before being shepherded

through a futuristic curtain to set two.

This was equally intense, with performers from different time zones categorised by Father Time.

The penultimate set was, in comparison, a glade of tranquillity, skilfully lit by paper lanterns, with silhouettes using sign language behind paper screens.

Then the final set was filled with scenes of chaos: wars, famine and environmental abuse. Here, a soundtrack and recorded comments from the cast reminded us that, ultimately, we all play a role in today's civilisation.

Sky High was a creative, professional and thought-provoking piece. Projects like this foster independence, teamwork and an opportunity to express oneself. Let's hope it's the first of many.

Ben Furner

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DN9

Movin' On to greater heights

At the end of July, London played host to one of the largest disability arts festivals ever held anywhere. Appropriately called *Movin' On*, the festival marked a watershed in the development of a distinct disability arts culture. It was organised mainly by the



Poetry signer Dot Miles

London Disability Arts Forum (LDAF) together with Shape London, and sponsored by Greater London Arts, British Gas, British Telecom and the boroughs of Southwark, Hackney and Hammersmith & Fulham.

Most of *DN's* regular reviewers were so busy performing or running workshops that they didn't have time to write. So despite the handicap of being able-bodied – or abb-lee-bow-died as one play put it – I landed the pleasurable task of "festival-goer" – a role I'm used to after five years living in Edinburgh.

It's never possible to see everything and choosing was difficult, with 10 theatre and dance companies performing at seven venues across London, plus many individual artists' shows, and workshops on everything from sculpture and puppetry and photography.

As a first step LDAF worker Sian Vasey explained the festival's aims to me.

"It's trying to provide as big a showcase as possible to get disabled artists on the map. It's also about becoming another strand in contemporary cultural diversity and raising disabled people's consciousness."

The festival was firmly aimed at a disabled audience, encouraging people, as Sian Vasey put it, "to start feeling good about themselves or to continue feeling good about themselves".

She defines "disabled art" as art which is informed by the experience of disability. "It's not people singing Roberta Flack

songs; it says something about disability."

The first play I went to see was *The Cornflake Box*, written and directed by Elspeth Morrison and performed by Graeae Theatre Company at Jacksons Lane in Haringey.

Graeae is the only full-time professional company of disabled actors in the UK and its contribution was a very funny, topical, political play.

It revolved around three disabled people sharing a flat and lots of differences who have to unite to fight Very Flash Homes. It wants to buy the council estate their flat is on, re-develop it and sell off the flats at a price the trio cannot afford.

Tactics such as handcuffing themselves to the car of VFH's chairman ("Handcuffed handicapped"...I can see the headlines") are discarded in favour of blocking all the toilets in the Town Hall and barricading themselves in the only disabled loo.

The dialogue was fast and

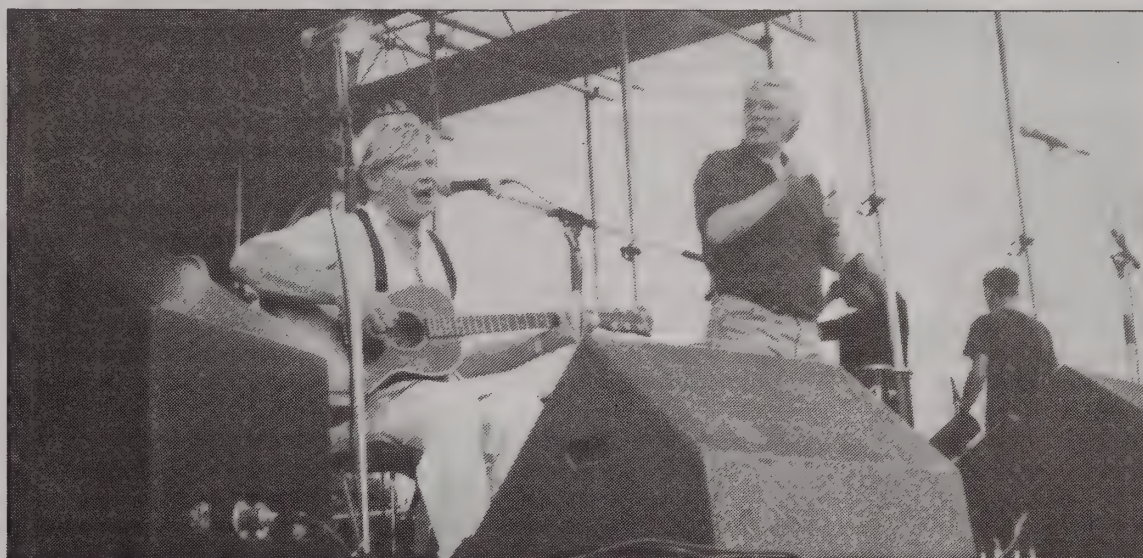
parental restrictions and the risk of AIDS. They helped each other overcome them through practical measures – hence the Mates condom and the name of the play. A demonstration of its function with a deodorant bottle, the sort of gag that can be done very badly, was hilarious.

It was an exuberant performance and the audience loved it.

Heart and Soul had a new show for *Movin' On*, *The Dungeon of Love* at the Albany Empire, Deptford. I personally enjoyed this the least of the plays I saw but Heart and Soul are very popular and had a packed audience which was responsive and eager to join in.

Sian Vasey told me that they had done leaflet drops at day centres and this seemed to have paid off, reaching people who rarely go to "arts events" and even more rarely see other disabled people on stage.

The show was about breaking out of the sugary sweetness of the *Love Dungeon*, from under the



Johnny Crescendo: uncompromising message, beautiful delivery

funny, the set was colourful and innovative and there were strong performances from Letty Kaye, Sarah Beer and in particular Hamish McDonald as Sean/DHSS "snooper".

The play got to grips with some basic issues – discrimination, disability politics, sexuality, images of disability, language and the attitudes of able-bodied people – in a witty, sardonic and memorable way.

Next I saw *Mates* by Lawnmower, a theatre group from Newcastle. The message, much like Graeae's, was self-advocacy: "Assert yourself, stand up for your rights, you're all on your own now, it's your own life."

Every member of the cast had a different "problem" – being called names, drink, gambling,

influence of the *Love Devil* and out of the clutches of the Hug Machine, to define the true meaning of love.

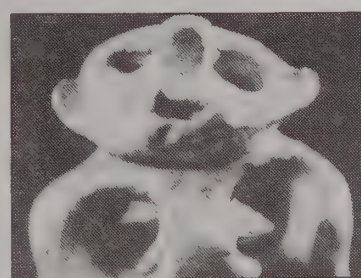
The finale of the week was an all-day event in Burgess Park, Southwark with cabaret and fireworks in the evening.

Blues singer and poet Johnny Crescendo doubled as compere and performer for the cabaret. He set the tone for the evening. The message of his material was uncompromising – disability is a civil rights issue – but the delivery was beautiful and the range of emotions deep and wide.

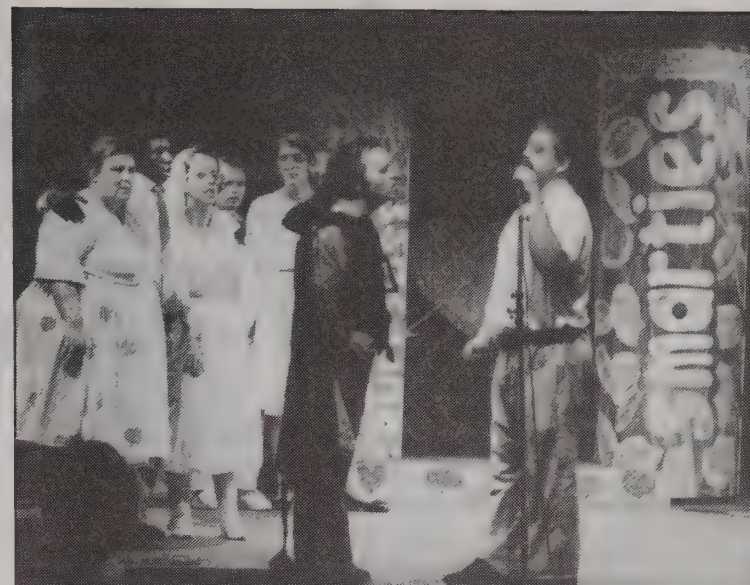
This was mirrored by the other performers: poets Thomas Joseph and Ellie Wilkie*, stand-up comics Wanda Barbara and Allan Sutherland, poetry signer Dot Miles and song signer Sarah

cassette and large print catalogues will be available. 3-14 Oct at the Glasgow School of Art, Newbery Gallery, 167 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6RQ, 10-5pm every day. 28 Nov-14 Dec, Royal College of Art, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2EU, 10-5pm every day. Details from Marcus Weisen, 01-388 1266 ext 2328.

Touch Workshop at Whitechapel Art Gallery, 25 Sept, tel: 01-377 5015.



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Heart and Soul exploring the meaning of love

LEON MORRIS

Scott. There was sadness, satire, joking and elation.

Unfortunately there was a small turn-out. This may have been because it was a weekend night, making transport difficult for people from day centres and others competing for dial-a-rides.

All in all it had been a thought-provoking and entertaining week. My only disappointment was that I couldn't see more and that

there wasn't some sort of festival club to repair to after shows.

Johnny Crescendo's verdict was: "I've had a great festival and enjoyed every gig. I hope we can have another one next year."

So do I but with only part-time workers at LDAF it will probably be 1991. This year's success was helped by a concerted effort from each of the venues.

One aim of *Movin' On* was to keep widening the disability arts scene. At the moment it is open to anyone who wants to get up and have a go. Chat's Palace in Hackney had an evening's entertainment by local disabled performers during the festival.

Disability arts look set to grow, providing an outlet, as well as some jobs, for creative disabled people to give expression to their experiences and to articulate the hopes and concerns of the disabled community.

Geraldine Holden

LDAF, The Diorama, Peto Place, London NW1, tel/minicom: 01-935 5588 or 01-935 8999.

*Sadly Ellen Wilkie died on 7 August. There will be a tribute in next month's issue.

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Look out for...

Opera. The performances at which the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, has extra wheelchair spaces are: *Rigoletto*, 18 Sept; *Peter Grimes*, 18 & 26 Oct; *Medea*, 23 Nov. Two triple bill ballets, on 12 Oct and 20 Nov, also have extra spaces. Phone 01-240 1200 ext 271.

Art at Heart. Glasgow is going to be the first European city to host a large exhibition of

I am sure we all find the enormity of the worldwide problem of AIDS hard to grasp. In recent years we have been used to vaccination against, and treatment for, many illnesses which were previously incurable.

In HIV we have a virus which, with present knowledge, is neither preventable nor curable. The way in which this virus is spread is specific and limited, but it involves intimate sexual relationships and personal choices about partners and lifestyles.

Although there have been TV and radio campaigns and nationwide leaflet distributions, which I hope people with disabilities have seen and understood, I thought it would be helpful to summarise the facts.

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is caused by a virus, known as HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus). As its name implies, the virus works by causing a deficiency in the body's natural defences against disease, the immune system. This makes it prone to develop certain rare diseases to which it normally has a natural immunity.

Not all people infected with the virus will develop one of these conditions and be diagnosed as having "full-blown" AIDS.

The problem is that the majority of people with HIV have no symptoms and are unaware that they are infected. It is these carriers who are the most significant factor in the spread of the disease.

There is no reason to suppose that people with disabilities (apart from those with haemophilia who were, sadly, given infected blood before the dangers were fully recognised) are at any greater or lesser risk than anyone else. But it

Share Your Problems

with Margaret Morgan

Understanding the realities of AIDS and HIV



is important to ensure that *everyone* understands how HIV is passed on, is helped to consider the risks and encouraged to take precautions.

The first enquiry expresses the concern felt by those who are closely involved with people with disabilities, while the second indicates how those who live in groups or communities may feel particularly at risk.

"I do wonder if the information about HIV and AIDS is readily available to people with disabilities. If it is, do they really understand the implications? Are there any special leaflets or information for those who may not be able to read very easily or whose understanding may be limited?"

Special efforts are being made to ensure that information about HIV and AIDS is available in suitable forms for those who have particular needs. However, I have found it quite difficult to track down the contact points, and it does seem vital to have more effective communication systems between the different organisations involved.

AIDS AHEAD has produced a video and teaching pack for

people with hearing problems: some taped and braille versions of AIDS leaflets are available from the RNIB. More braille and audio material is on the way.

Several organisations are working together to produce three booklets: for people with learning difficulties; for their parents and relatives and for professionals. There are also leaflets in simple English and other languages, as well as recorded tapes through the Healthline Telephone Service.

National and local AIDS helplines are available and advisers aim to have information suitable for all callers. You may need to be persistent, if you want to discover just what is available.

"I live in a residential home and I am worried about AIDS. Some of the residents have relationships and I know that some use what I think are now known as 'sex toys' (vibrators etc). I am very worried that I may be at risk. If any of the staff have AIDS am I likely to catch it from them? Are there any leaflets about AIDS specifically for people with physical disabilities?"

Although people express concern about catching AIDS, it is the

HIV virus that we should be worried about. To date there have only been a relatively small number of people with "full-blown" AIDS in this country, though many thousands more are carrying HIV and the numbers are increasing all the time.

HIV is transmitted mainly through bodily fluids, for example semen, vaginal fluid and blood, when having penetrative sexual relationships, whether these are vaginal or anal. Intravenous drug users who share needles are also at great risk.

Since HIV only lives for a very short time outside the human body it cannot be picked up from inanimate objects like lavatory seats, cups, glasses, towels or clothes. Sex toys might well come in this category, although it is best not to share them.

Normal everyday contact with an infected person, for instance touching or shaking hands, is perfectly safe. Ordinary involvement with staff or other residents should not, therefore, put you at any special risk.

For those who are engaged in active sexual relationships special care is needed. Intimate activities such as kissing, fondling and mutual masturbation are considered perfectly safe, though it is important when embarking on a new relationship where penetrative sex will be involved to insist on using a condom (sheath, rubber).

Many explanatory leaflets are available, though it has not been thought necessary or appropriate to publish special leaflets for people with physical disabilities, as it is assumed that they will have access to the same information as everyone else.

It is possible to have an HIV antibody test if you feel you have been at risk and are worried. You can ask your doctor to arrange this or contact a clinic anywhere in the country. They are listed in the

phone book under Sexually Transmitted Disease, Genito-urinary Medicine, or Venereal Diseases.

The test is usually preceded by a counselling session to discourage those who may be worrying unnecessarily and to prevent overloading the testing facilities by those who have not been at risk.

It is also important to consider fully the effects a positive result could have on your future life.

If you have any specific queries, the national AIDS Helpline provides a 24-hour telephone service.

The Terence Higgins Trust also has a helpline and there are many local Helplines and support groups. However, if you feel that your disability puts you at specific risk, do contact the Director of SPOD, Morgan Williams, on 01-607 8851. Morgan is an accredited AIDS/HIV counsellor and will be able to advise you.

National AIDS Helpline, 0800 567 123. 24 hours, 7 days a week. Confidential and free service.

Terrence Higgins Trust, 52/54 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8JU Helpline 01-242 1010 from 3pm to 10pm 7 days a week.

Administration 01-831 0330.

SPOD (The Association to aid Sexual and Personal Relationships of People with a Disability), 286 Camden Road, London N7 0BJ, tel: 01-607 8851.

AIDS AHEAD, Administrator, Catherine King, tel: (0606) 47047. Health Education Authority, Hamilton House, Mabledon Place, London WC1 9TX, 01-631 0930, maintains a resource list for professionals.

Healthline Telephone Service, 01-980 4848, 2pm-10pm Monday to Friday, has up-to-date recorded information on AIDS and advice on safer sex, drug abuse and blood transfusions.

HELP

Project Ability, the Glasgow-based arts and disability organisation, is compiling an access guide for disabled visitors and residents in time for Glasgow's role as European City of Culture in 1990. Anybody with a good or bad experience of access to the arts in Glasgow, and its surrounding area, who would like to get involved in compiling the guide, should get in touch with Anne McManus on 041-226 3431 or 041-227 6008.

Do any readers have RAF/WAAF photos taken since World War Two? There are a lot of unnamed photos hanging around people's houses which I can trace and give a safe home in the RAF Museum's archives in Hendon. Contact Eunice Wilson, 143 Harbord Street, London SW6.

We are planning a national resource list of oral health initiatives for specific ethnic minority groups in the UK. Does anyone know of any such initiatives? We are also interested in material on other health issues for ethnic minority groups and

suggestions on any health education issues in need of special development. Sonia Williams, Bradford Dental Health Education Service, 2nd floor, Joseph Brennan House, Sunbridge Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 2SY.

Ability-Link, a group of designers who design and make equipment for people with disabilities, want any spares or bits of equipment like wheelchairs, baby buggies etc, broken or working, that can be used to build up a range of equipment to work on or loan out to replace the ones we work on. We will of course collect. We are also interested in needs which are not catered for by mass manufacturers. Contact James Holmes-Siedle, 18 Ashwin Street, London E8 3DL, tel: 01-241 5131.

SHARE YOUR PROBLEMS BY PHONE

Talk to Lin Berwick, DN's telephone counsellor, herself disabled, on Monday afternoons, 1pm-5pm and Thursdays 6pm-10pm. Her telephone number is (04024) 77582.

Are You Sitting Comfortably?

The **Alvema 400** pushchair is available in four models for young people and adults who cannot manoeuvre a wheelchair themselves. Designed with high sides and an alternative high back this chair gives comfort and security to those who have seating difficulties in a conventional wheelchair.

The **Alvema 400** provides a soft ride, with large tyres and has a built-in stabilizer for protection against tipping when the chair is unattended.

If you would like to try an **Alvema 400** for the special person in your life, please call us today to arrange a demonstration.



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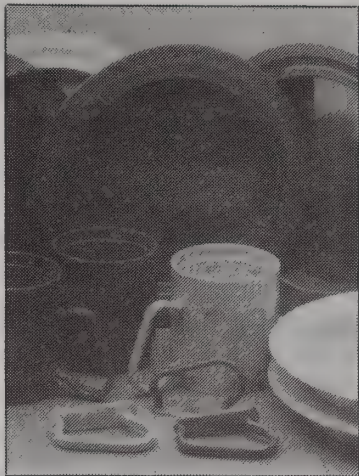
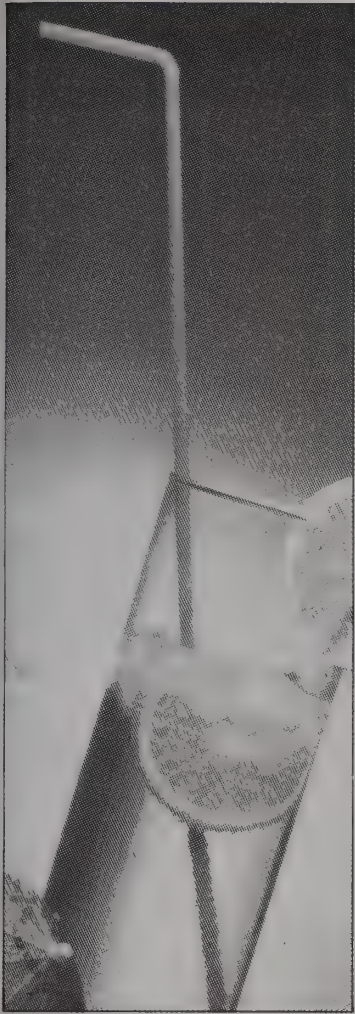
Rainbow Rehab, P.O. Box 546, Bournemouth BH8 8YD. ☎ 0202-32651

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ALVEMA products





CHECKOUT

Sunshine, soaring temperatures, holidays – it's the season for picnics in the park or just eating outside continental-style.

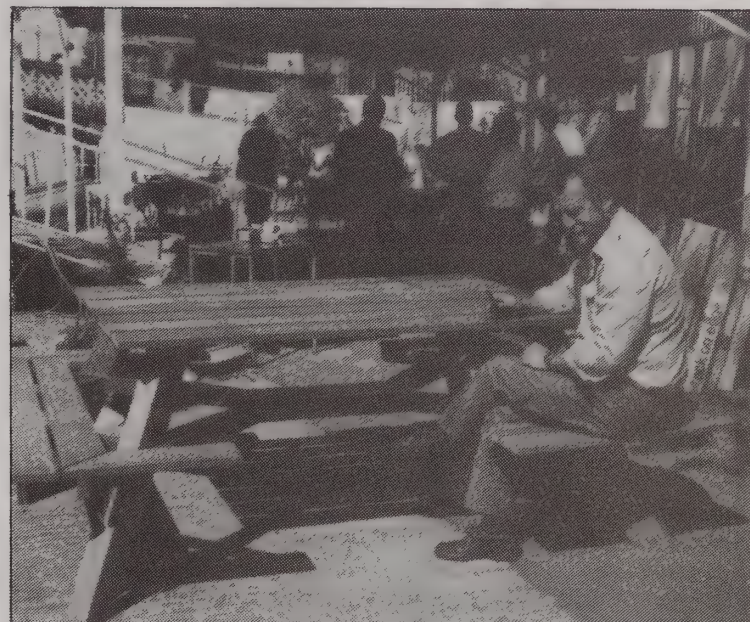
Medici Rehab, tel: (0277) 212637, makes **plates and cups** (above) which are incredibly tough and come in a range of colours, some very bright for people with poor eyesight. The plates stack and have a tall inner lip to help people who eat with one hand load the food onto a fork. The cups have moveable, detachable handles; an anti-spill top and a spout, angled to allow tongue depression before you start to drink. Prices around £4 per cup or plate but less if you buy six-packs.

Dycem, tel: (0272) 559921, has **non-slip cup holders**, (bottom left) useful for people drinking from straws or on an uneven

surface, £2.85 for two. It also makes **non-slip trays** and a **jar/bottle opener**.

The **Flexistraw** (top left) from Keep Able, tel: (0933) 679426, £3.44 per 400, comes in two lengths. The superlong one, £3.44 per 250, means you do not have to pick up the glass. The **Pat Saunders straw**, £2.29, has a non-return valve to stop you swallowing air, comes in two different lengths and is reusable. The **goblet** (above), £6.27 and the **beanbag tray**, (top right), £23.52, which keeps trays stable, are also available.

The simple but effective adapted **picnic table** (bottom right) was a winning design in the Fieldfare Trust's countryside access competition. The Trust promotes access to the countryside for people with disabilities. It would like to hear from any manufacturers interested in the table. Phone Phil Chambers on (0742) 701668.



PARCELS OF DN

Some readers receive several copies of *DN* every month. We must account for every copy to the Audit Bureau of Circulations, to prove our circulation figure is accurate. In future, we must ask those who receive more than one copy to keep a list of the recipients to show to ABC should they ask. For further information, contact Gayle Mooney, Disability Now, address on page 3.



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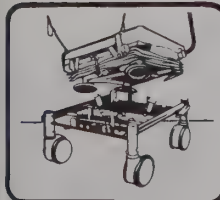


lifts from floor
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I WOULD LIKE A FREE BROCHURE ☐ A FREE DEMONSTRATION ☐

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DN9

For further details CONTACT: **Mangar Aids Ltd.**,
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A British Product shown in the Design Centre London.

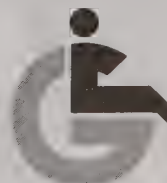
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Leicester LE4 1AZ
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Telex 341513 GIMSON G
Fax (0533) 366198

DN9

WHAT'S ON

Transport for people with a mobility handicap seminar. 12-13 September, Sussex University. For transport planners, manufacturers and representatives from mobility groups. Information from Jim Hopkinson, PTRC Education and Research Services, Glenthorne House, Hammersmith Grove, London W6 0LG, tel: 01-741 1516.

Motor Neurone Disease Association Annual Conference. 15-16 September at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Contact Jim Lewis, Research Officer, MNDA, 61 Derngate, Northampton NN1 1UE, tel: (0604) 250505 or 22269.

Dolphin Circumnavigation Project is organising a 5-day voyage,

Ramsgate-London, 2-6 October. £112 inc food, oilskins and harnesses. Applications to Christopher Rudd, 8 Gordon Place, London W8.

Castle Priory

Goal Planning (Houts & Scott method) – introductory workshop. 27-29 September. Tuition £75, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Exploring issues in case management – for key workers and management. 2-3 October. Tuition £83, residence £35.75, non-residence £20.

Perception – a hidden handicap? – for teachers, therapists and carers. Tutor: Pat Kennedy. 11-13 October. Tuition £83, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Personal relationships & sexuality stage 1 – introductory course for staff working with people with physical disabilities. 20-22 October. Tuition £85, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Further information from Castle Priory, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0HE. Please enclose SAE. Tel: (0491) 37551.

INFO

Travelling fellowships for 1990 are being offered by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. One of the categories is services, employment and recreation for disabled people. Applicants must propose a study project related to their profession or interests. About 100 awards are made annually. Closing date 23 October 1989. Details from Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 15 Queen's Gate Terrace, London SW7 5PR, tel: 01-584 9315.

Sculpture exhibition open to all disabled people over 18, resident in UK. Organised/sponsored by North Light Figurines. Working in any medium entrants must produce a piece entitled "Animals in Society". No distinction will be made between amateur/professional sculptors. First prize £1,000. For entry forms send large SAE to North Light Sculpture Competition, PO Box 92, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1XW, tel: (0260) 273146.

In Touch, BBC Radio 4's 1989 guide to services for people with a visual handicap, print edition, £8.50 (payable to Broadcasting Support Services) from In Touch Handbook, PO Box 7, London W3 6XJ, details of braille, Moon and cassette editions from same address. **Remap Yearbook 1989**, gives details of nearest branch of Remap which designs, makes and modifies equipment to meet individual needs, available from RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB, £2.75 inc p&p. **Charity Choice**, 1989 encyclopaedia of charities, from Abercorn Hill Associates, Linburn House, 340-342 Kilburn High Road, London NW6 2QJ, tel: 01-624 6340, £14.50 inc p&p. **Help Yourself Directory**, directory of self-help, supportive and advisory groups in Merseyside area; from Kevin Cowdall, DRU, Mount Vernon Green, Hall Lane, Liverpool L7 8TF, tel: 051-709 9988, £4.

Scarborough Area Disabled Drivers is a new organisation founded by people with a disability for people with a disability. Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact T Rouse, SADD, Head Office, Allatt House, 5 West Parade Road, Scarborough, North Yorks.

Kulwant Ajimal is new director of research and development at The Spastics Society. Previously he was self-employed as a management consultant. **Christine Lavery** is new national development officer for Contact a Family. She has wide experience of setting up national self-help groups, assisted by the Mental Health Foundation and the King's Fund. **David Hicks**, former head of regional fundraising with the RNID, is new director of information and appeals at the John Grooms Association and **David Newnham** is new director of care. Hounslow Borough Association of Disabled People has appointed its first employee, development worker **Steve Cribb**.

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DisabilityNow**Editorial Secretary**
up to £9675 (incl ILW)
review pending

The leading publication in the disability field needs a super, enthusiastic, experienced secretary to cope with a busy office and write some of the listings. Shorthand, typing and word processing skills needed. Non-smoker preferred.

Applications welcomed from people with disabilities.

Forms from Gayle Mooney, DN, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ.

Tel: 01-636 5020 ext 244.
Closing date: 15 September.

OUTSET**ISLINGTON****seeks to recruit
A TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR**

to lead the Training Unit of this small and well-established project which offers customised training in conventional and computerised office skills to local people with disabilities.

The successful candidate will have experience of initiating and delivering computer and office training, and skills in the personal development of trainees.

Salary range £13,518-£14,313

For more details and an application form please contact the Manager, **OUTSET ISLINGTON**, 393/395 City Road, London EC1V 1NE. Tel: 01-837 7020. Closing date 29 September, interviews 10 October, 1989.

Outset is an equal opportunities employer with fully accessible premises. Applicants with a disability are particularly welcomed.

Southern ARTLINK

Unit One, St John Fisher School, Sandy Lane West, Blackbird Leys, Oxford OX4 5LD. Tel: 0865 714652

We are expanding. Join us at the start of an exciting new phase of development. Two arts fieldworkers required (part time) £9228: pro rata: to work closely with artists and set up public arts projects of all kinds. Proven, good visual arts / performance / dance / and / or other art form skills required.

★ *Striving to offer equal opportunity employment.* ★

WALTHAM FOREST COMMUNITY TRANSPORT,**CO-ORDINATOR**

(Full-time SO1)

£13,941

(PAY AWARD PENDING)

We need a Co-ordinator to set up and develop this exciting new project in East London, which seeks to provide transport to people who cannot use public transport and have no access to private transport.

S/he needs experience, (paid or unpaid), of managing or developing community based projects, although this need not specifically be in transport related projects. Knowledge of the role and working of the voluntary and statutory sectors is also important.

Waltham Forest is a multi-cultural area and we welcome applications from all people including women, people with disabilities, people from ethnic minority groups, lesbians and gay men.

We are striving to be an Equal Opportunities Employer. The office is fully accessible. Job sharers welcome.

For further details, application forms, etc., contact Nors Jackson, WFCVS, 547-551 High Road, Leytonstone, London E11 4PB. Tel: 01-558 6011. Closing date: 1st October 1989.

SEND US YOUR SMALLS...

...and make a big impression. Small ads in DN reach over 80,000 people for just £2 a line (minimum £8). Please don't send money with your ad - we will invoice you after it goes in. Find a friend is free, and all ads are free to members of The Spastics Society and affiliated groups. Phone 01-636 5020 ext 245.

FOR SALE**LARGE BUNGALOW FOR SALE**

Entire property with ramped access throughout, including front and back gardens, shed etc. The property is capable of flexible division with 2 bathrooms; 2 kitchens; 1 very large living/dining room (3 interconnecting rooms each approx 12' square); 4 further reception/double bedrooms; medium sized garden; garage; double car port; tarmac forecourt; gas central heating. "Hilltop", 52 Meadow Walk, Ewell, Surrey KT17 2ED. £185,000. Write for further details.

TRANSIT VAN. One owner, Auto 56,000 miles, W-reg. Fitted with Ratcliff lift, Unwin clamps and inertia belt for wheelchair passenger. Windows all round. Metallic bronze. Seats 7. Available Mid Oct. Good condition £2,000. Tel: (0703) 610030.

LARGE END TERRACE HOUSE lounge, kitchen/diner, utility room and downstairs W.C.. Upstairs 4 bedrooms and bathroom. Attached large garage, gardens front and rear with lawns and fruit trees. Next to doctor's surgery. Ramps front and back. Sold with planning permission for bedroom and shower room and wheelchair store. Grant may be available. Offers around £79,950. Tel: Basingstoke (0256) 56935.

BROTHERWOOD CONVERSIONS have for sale a wide range of second hand converted vehicles for transporting the wheelchair bound, from £3,500. For a detailed list please phone (0935) 872603 or send SAE, Brotherwood Conversions, Station Garage, Yetminster, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6LH.

FORD GRANADA, 2.3GL saloon, W-reg, automatic with Fenny & Johnson controls. 12 months MOT. Good cond/ high mileage. Good looking, comfortable car with 2-tone paint work and extra driving lights by Ford. £1,200. Tel: (0684) 569605.

CRADDOCK CHAIR MK5 to suit child 1-5 years approx. Cost £400 plus new. For sale at £200. Tel: Kimpton (0438) 832650.

Disability Now is not responsible for claims made in the advertisements it prints and all readers are advised to check claims with the advertisers before relying on them.

PUBLICITY and INFORMATION WORKER

Job Share (2 day week)

Previous experience of Publicity/Public Relations/Small magazine editorial and knowledge of Dial-a-Ride an advantage but not essential.

Salary £10,743 (plus £1,584 LW) Pro Rata=£5,283 p.a. (inc LW)

ONLY PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES NEED APPLY

Further details, taped information and application forms from:

LDARUA, St Margarets, 25 Leighton Road, Kentish Town, London NW5 2QD. Tel: 01-482 2325.

Dial-a-Ride is London's Public Transport Service for people with disabilities. We are striving to be an Equal Opportunities Employer.

Closing Date: Friday 29th September 1989.

**SOUTHAMPTON AND SOUTH WEST HAMPSHIRE****HEALTH AUTHORITY****MENTAL HANDICAP SERVICES UNIT**

"Working Towards Equal Opportunities"

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTOR I

To work in the O.T. Centre at Tatchbury Mount, responsible for the co-ordination and management of a small team of Occupational Therapy Helpers and Technical Staff offering a structured programme of interventions for a group of 25 people with a mental handicap.

Previous experience in working with people with learning difficulties and relevant qualifications such as teaching, CSS, CQSW, City & Guilds. **Salary £9,385-£11,352 - 36 hour week.**

Further information, job description and application form from **O.T. Dept., Maples Centre, Tatchbury Mount, Calmore, Southampton SO4 2RZ. Telephone: Southampton 865911 ext 215.**

Closing Date: September 12th 1989

OUTSET**INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR
DISABILITY INFORMATION UNIT**

Salary range £13,941-£14,724 (incl. OLW)

(pay award pending)

OUTSET is an expanding national charity committed to improving the quality of disabled people's lives. OUTSET sees the provision of information as a key aspect of this and it is for this reason that it is now expanding its Disability Information Unit.

The Information Co-ordinator will be expected to take the lead in the development, expansion and promotion of the Unit's two databases and services. The databases are statistical and 'textual'.

The Information Co-ordinator will need to have experience of organising, developing and running databases, and experience of data collection, storage and dissemination. The appointee will have the opportunity to show imagination and flair in developing the marketing aspects of the DIU. A recognised qualification in librarianship or computer science is desirable. S/he will have had experience or be able to show an awareness of issues in the disability field.

For information and an application form please contact Linda Fowler, **OUTSET, Drake House, 18 Creekside, London SE8 3DZ. Telephone: 01-692 7141.**

Closing date for the receipt of applications is Monday, 2nd October 1989.

Outset is an Equal Opportunities Employer and actively encourages applications from people with disabilities. All Outset's premises are wheelchair accessible.



LIBERATOR PRESENTS

MINSPEAK MAXIMS**MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR MINSPEAK
THE FIRST UK MINSPEAK CONFERENCE.**

In association with

'I CAN'

Minspeak is the linguistic based processing system used in the most versatile and powerful augmentative communication systems available today. It is being used by speech-language therapists, special educators, and others with a wide range of clients, across the spectrum from severely developmentally delayed to highly educated people.

Although it requires a significant investment in understanding, it is an invaluable tool in the hands of a competent clinician or educator. It has permitted the field of augmentative communication to turn the corner from a concentration on technology to an emphasis on the application of linguistically powerful systems.

Keynote Speaker: Shirley McNaughton

MINSPEAK PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:

- A Minspeak Application Programme Using Blissymbols - S. McNaughton
- Blissymbols and Minspeak - Issues and Problems - S. Millar
- Introducing Light Talker to Adult Blissymbol Users - A. McDonald
- Words Strategy - B. Baker
- Language, Learning and Living - T. Jones
- Interaction, Education and Play - J. Bruno
- Power in Play - Gail Van Tatenhove
- Non-Vocal For a Day - M. Kee & K. Robinson
- Implementing Words Strategy - M. Smith
- Training for Employment - D. & T. Woods
- Training for Independence - J. Peacock
- Assessment Criteria - P. Elder & C. Goossens
- Follow up of Assessments '86-'89 - S. Millar, J. Scott & A. Owen
- Introducing Minspeak in SLD Environment - K. Robinson, B. Gorrie, L. Lesivk
- Introducing Minspeak to an Adult Stroke Patient - A. Noon
- Synthesis - A Voice to be Heard and Understood - B. Reid
- Parents as Partners in Minspeak - J. Scott, S. Boa
- Use of Phonemes with Minspeak - R. Cross
- Minspeak with an Aphasic Adult - L. Pantan
- Key Issues in AAC - B. Romich

For further information about the conference contact - **ICAN, Allen Graham House, 198 City Road, London EC1V 2PH. Tel (01) 608-2462**

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Within 20 minutes of the New Forest.

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**BRITISH AMPUTEE SPORTS ASSOCIATION
ADMINISTRATOR/FUNDRAISER**

B.A.S.A. has a vacancy for a part-time Administrator and Fundraiser. This is a new post which has been created in the light of the increased level of disabled sport nationally and internationally. The successful candidate will have experience of the disabled sports world, a good administrative ability, and be able to inspire confidence in potential sponsors.

As B.A.S.A. does not yet have an office, the postholder will be expected to work from home; much work will be done on one's own initiative although full management support will be given.

SALARY: c. £5,000 for a 20-hour week, plus expenses and a working-at-home allowance.

APPLICATIONS: Application forms and a Job Description are available from Barry North, 119 Francis Street, Derby, DE2 6DE (Telephone: Derby 40183). Applications should be returned by September 25 1989. Further information is available from the above address.

B.A.S.A. IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

SHAD WANDSWORTH

works to enable individuals with physical disabilities to live in the local community.

FULL-TIME CO-ORDINATOR

required to be responsible for the administrative and financial aspects of this established voluntary organisation.

Experience of budgeting and finance within the voluntary sector and good organisational and communication skills, together with a positive attitude to disability are essential to this post.

**Salary: £13,518 (inc. LW)
(pay award pending)**

Further details and application form from: SHAD Wandsworth, The Nightingale Centre, 8 Balham Hill, London SW12 9EA. (01-675 6095) Closing date: Friday 29 September.

SHAD is striving to be an Equal Opportunities employer. All applications are considered on merit with equal opportunities for people with disabilities, women, black and ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men.

SENIOR TEAM LEADER

St. Bridgets is a purpose built Home for the younger physically-disabled. We seek a Senior Team Leader who can deputise for the Head of Care. The successful applicant will be responsible for helping our Residents arrange their social and leisure activities, and to help integrate the Resident into the community.

We would particularly like to hear from people who have experience and qualifications CQSW/CSS or other relevant qualifications.

Job-sharing would be considered. Pension is transferable, and Salary is negotiable.

For further information, Job description, and application form please contact Pauline Kelcey on Rustington (0903) 783988. Informal discussion and visit welcome.

WANTED

ADAM WOULD LIKE to learn the piano. Have you an upright that you would like to donate to him. Please ring 01-208 3288.

PLATFORM STAIR LIFT for wheelchair user. Can arrange dismantling & transport. Tel: Currant (0584) 890324.

ORGANISATION/SERVICES

THE LADY HOARE TRUST for physically disabled children, Alma Lodge, 75 Alma Rd, Windsor SL4 3HD. Tel: (0753) 830508. All enquiries and applications for social work help to Mrs Ramsay, AIMSW, Social Work Administrator.

**LEISURE SERVICES OFFICER – SCALE 5
£9,474 – £10,743 + ILW (pro rata)**

6 months contract

An energetic, creative person is required to fill the new post of part time Leisure Services Officer (2 days) based in London.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the development and promotion of opportunities in the arts for people with disabilities.

Preference will be given to candidates who themselves have a disability.

For application form and a job description, please contact Lucy Anderson, Leisure Services Manager, The Spastics Society, Leisure Services Dept., Canningford House, 38 Victoria Street, Bristol BS1 6BY, tel: (0272) 250772.

Closing date 15 September 1989.

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY
WORKING TOWARDS EQUALITY

**LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT
SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT – SPECIAL NEEDS DIVISION
LOCATION: CARLYON INDUSTRIES**

REQUIRED: To fill essential posts at Carlyon Industries, 1 Assistant Manager (Production) Ref. no. K670. Scale 6. Salary £12,327-£13,059 pa

3 Instructors/Supervisors. Ref. No. K671/K672/K1133. Scale 5. Salary £11058-£11991 pa

One to cover for 12 months maternity leave cover. Salaries for all posts under review, with pay rise pending.

CARLYON INDUSTRIES is a training workshop providing permanent employment and training in the printing industry for up to 50 disabled people. There is potential within the factory to increase the number of employees/trainees. The workshop is going through a development and reorganisation programme which involves the introduction of new machinery and the development of new training programmes. Successful applicants will contribute to these changes.

- Assistant Manager (Production) must possess recognised print qualifications and experience. Industrial/finance, management experience and training skills are essential to the post.
- Instructor/Supervisor: must have training skills and experience in planning training programmes. Must hold recognised print qualifications or have had general print experience. Ideally, applicants will have experience of working in camera and paste-up techniques.

First hand experience of disability would be an advantage for all posts. Duties of the posts are underpinned by commitment to disability equality, anti-discriminatory practices and support for an equal opportunity policy. Candidates are required to have an understanding of the needs of disabled people. Due to under representation on the Management Team, applications are particularly welcomed from disabled people, women, and from black and asian people.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION RING GAIL GLEDHILL ON 01-998 0067.

Training Success

for

The Council's Office Skills YTS started in 1983. Since then, some 100 young people have joined the scheme. More than 80% of those now have jobs, many of them with the Council. It is a small scheme, catering for a maximum of 20 trainees at any one time. This means that we are able to offer you individual attention when it comes to finding a work-experience placement which suits you, and dealing with any problems that may arise. All trainees receive a free weekly two zone travel pass. We look forward to receiving applications from anyone aged 16 or 17. We particularly welcome applications from those with a physical disability up to the age of 21. If you want to know more, please contact me, Helen Diarcy on 871 6197, or drop us a line to: Room 256, The Town Hall, Wandsworth, High Street, SW18 2PU. Closing date 11/9/89.

Wandsworth
an equal opportunity employer.
All applicants are considered for this course on the basis of suitability irrespective of disability, race, sex or marital status.

HARLOW

Harlow is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applicants aged 16-65, irrespective of race, sex, marital status, disability, or sexuality. Applicants interested in job sharing may apply for any job, with or without a partner, unless otherwise stated.

TO ADVERTISE IN DISABILITY NOW CLASSIFIED

Please contact the Advertisement Manager, Jonathan Wine, Kingslea Press Limited, 12 Dock Offices, Surrey Quays, Lower Road, London SE16 2XL. Telephone: 01-252 1362 Fax: 01-237 8019



DIRECTOR – Salary: £12,500

ARTLINK, the region's independent arts and disability agency, requires a highly experienced and energetic arts administrator to continue the development of this key strategic organisation.

Based with Humberside County Council (Libraries and Arts Unit) in Hull, this post requires:

- experience of the voluntary or statutory arts sector
- financial management and fundraising experience
- awareness of the disability movement/disability arts
- commitment to Equal Opportunity in the arts.

Closing date for applications: Friday, 29th September 1989.

Interviews on Wednesday, 18th October 1989.

Write/telephone for a job description and application form (also available on tape) to:

ARTLINK, Humberside Leisure Services, Central Library, Albion Street, Hull HU1 3TF. Tel: (0482) 224040 Ext. 263

ARTLINK is working towards being an Equal Opportunities Employer and particularly welcomes applications from disabled people.

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2 bedrooms, 2 receptions, g.ch., private garden, suitable for wheelchair user, garage, excellent condition. £95,000. Ansaphone Welwyn Garden City (0707) 335396.

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01-958 9657 (4pm-8pm)

If you would like *DN* on tape contact Gayle Mooney on 01-636 5020 ext 244.



For people with disabilities and caring, understanding able bodied persons Ladies should not be shy of applying!

All enquiries to: **HANDIDATE**
The Wellington Centre
52 Chevallier Street
Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 2PB
Telephone: (0473) 226950

THE ROYAL ASSOCIATION FOR DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION

FIELDWORK OFFICERS

To improve its services to member organisations, RADAR is expanding its fieldwork department. Two fieldwork officers are being sought, to be based in the following regions:

- (1) North West (Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Cheshire)
- (2) West Midlands (Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Hereford & Worcester, Warwickshire).

The post-holders will work with disabled people, disability organisations and statutory authorities acting as an information source and, where appropriate, aiding development of their services. A car will be provided. Experience of voluntary organisations and/or statutory authorities preferred.

Salary: £8,256-£11,475 (under review).

Details from: The Office Manager, RADAR, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB. Tel: 01-637 5400. Closing date for applications 29th September 1989.

RADAR is an Equal Opportunity Employer and particularly welcomes applications from people with disabilities.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL OF ORGANISATIONS OF DISABLED PEOPLE

Require a

RESEARCHER

£13,941 – £14,010, Scale SO2

For an exciting new area of research

Initially a one year project to investigate 'Institutional Discrimination of Disabled People', and produce a report for publication.

Some experience of carrying out research programmes and producing reports/dissertations as a result are necessary.

We particularly wish to encourage disabled people to apply for this post.

Write with full C.V. to: **SIA, 76 St James's Lane, London N1Q 3DF**

Please mark the envelope 'BCODP Research'

Closing date: Monday 18 September

BCODP is an equal opportunities employer.

REGIONAL GENERAL MANAGERS

Circa £23/£25,000 pa plus 15% performance related pay, leased car and other benefits

The Spastics Society is undergoing major change in its management structure in order to enhance its ability to meet the changing needs of people with cerebral palsy and associated disabilities. To this end The Spastics Society is seeking six Regional General Managers to develop regional services. Responsibilities will include the integration of our Social Services, Education and Local Group Support Operations. The postholders will report directly to the Director (Operations) and be responsible for approximately 500 staff and a budget of around £5m.

The Society is a leading charity in the disability field and candidates will need to demonstrate a track record commensurate with the responsibilities of such a major service providing enterprise. The development and maintenance of close working relationships with Local Authority Housing, Education and Social Services Departments as well as Health Authorities and other voluntary and private sector agencies will be a priority.

An Information Pack with Job Outline and fuller details of the Society's development plans and Mission Statement can be obtained by telephoning **Louise Sheehy, Executive Secretary to Personnel Director on 01-636 5020 ext 223/294.**

For an informal discussion please contact: **Ken Young, Chief Executive (01/636 5020 ext 225) or Julian Sorsby, Director (Operations) (01-636 5020 ext 227).**

Please forward your CV in the first instance to Louise Sheehy at The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ as soon as possible.

Informal interviews will be held during September and final interviews will be held in late September.

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY
WORKING TOWARDS EQUALITY

Shape London

Shape London, the arts development organisation working with Disabled people and other under-represented groups, is seeking to fill two posts:

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

Ref: F.A.1 Salary £13,518 inc. London Weighting

A dynamic administrator is needed to take responsibility for all aspects of the organisation's financial management. Experience of accounting and reporting in the arts or voluntary sector and computer accounting skills essential.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT

Ref: F.A.2 £8,700 pro rata inc. London Weighting

A part time assistant (20 hrs per week) to the Financial Administrator for filing, reconciling financial information and dealing with payments and banking. Basic book keeping skills essential.

Shape London is an Equal Opportunities Employer. Applications from disabled people are particularly welcome.

CLOSING DATE FOR BOTH POSTS September 15th

For further details send large s.a.e. quoting ref. to Shape London, 1 Thorpe Close, London W10 5XL. Details also available on tape.

Department of Development TRAINEE PLANNERS Circa £6,500

Opportunities in Town Planning.

Are you interested in planning the future of Waltham Forest?

Are you interested in the quality of the local environment?

Do you believe local people should have more say in the future of their Borough?

If the answer to the above is yes you should consider a career in Town Planning in Waltham Forest.

As part of the Council's commitment to provide a better place for its residents and workers, and to implement its equal opportunities policies, we require two trainee town planners.

One of the posts is restricted to applicants having a physical, sensory or learning difficulty (registered or unregistered) and the other to black and ethnic minority candidates who are under-represented in the Department, Section 5(ii)(d) of the Race Relations Act 1976 applies. These posts would be particularly suitable for school leavers as the trainees will be given experience in all aspects of town planning and be expected to attend part-time day release courses leading to a professional qualification in town planning.

Applicants do not require any formal qualification but should have the minimum entry requirement to do a part-time degree course in town planning, normally five GCSE passes including English language and mathematics and including two 'A' levels.

An interest in town planning is essential and candidates will need to demonstrate ability and commitment to undertake the necessary training.

Closing date: 15.9.89.

Ref: N3106/DN

Further details and application forms available from the Personnel Unit, Municipal Offices, The Ridgeway, London E4 6PS. Tel: 01-531 8899 (24 hour answerphone).

This post is available for job share.

Waltham Forest is a multi-racial area and we are anxious to ensure that this is reflected in our workforce. All applications for jobs are considered on merit, with equal opportunities for women, black and ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities.

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Hackney is serious about Equal Opportunities. All applications for jobs are considered on merit, with equal opportunities for women, black and ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities. Job share applications are welcomed with or without a partner.

Drop into our job shop at the Town Hall and look around or return the coupon, to: The Recruitment Office, Town Hall, Mare Street, London E8 1EA or telephone 01-986 3123 ext 211 or 215.

Please send me your weekly vacancy bulletin

Name

Address

Ref: DN9



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Working for local people

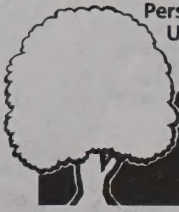
Planning and Economic Development
DISABILITIES PLANNER

(Career Grade Post)
£12,912 - £13,707 p.a. incl.

Help us create an accessible environment for people with mobility problems and sensory impairments. You will be advising, consulting, involved in individual developments and ensuring that planning policies and procedures reflect disability needs. You will have DIRECT PERSONAL EXPERIENCE of the needs of people with disabilities and detailed knowledge of how the built environment should reflect these needs, gained either through planning experience or community work.

Closing date: 22.9.89. Ref: 480PED

Application forms obtainable from Director of Personnel, Ealing Civic Centre, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, London W5 2HL. Tel: 01-840 1995. Please quote reference.



WORKING FOR QUALITY AND EQUALITY

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MAR Y SOL, LOS CRISTIANOS, TERERIFE. Apartments and studios for rent or ownership in wheelchair friendly complex. Two lovely pools, one with pool hoist, restaurant/poolside bar. Ring TODAY for cheapest prices on flights and accommodation. Sue Abbott, 123 Coppermill Road, Wraysbury, Staines, Middx TW19 5NX tel: (0753) 685718.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED self-catering accommodation. Two bed bungalow at Stuart House (3 acres grounds) Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire - Cotswold country-side November to March 1990 - £18 per night. Info from the manager, tel: (0453) 885034.

IVY DENE residential respite and day break service situated near Southampton, 20 minutes from the New Forest, single and double rooms. For brochure tel: Southampton (0703) 586376.

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HAVE YOU TRIED a Winged Fellowship Holiday in Britain or overseas? Great fun and full care provided. Write for free colour brochure: Winged Fellowship, Angel House, 20/32 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD, tel: 01-833 2594 (May 1990 onwards 071-833 2594).

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SUNNY TENERIFE, Los Cristianos. As featured on TV and radio, the beautiful "Mar y Sol" Health and Fitness Resort. Purpose-built, totally wheelchair-accessible. Swimming pools, saunas, gymnasium, physiotherapy. Apartments for rent or ownership. I can arrange your flights too! **BRILLIANT...AMAZING!** says BBC TV's The Travel Show. Come, see for yourself. Specially adapted taxi service from Tenerife airport. Video (£15 refundable deposit) brochure: Lynne James, 7 Overpool Road, Ellesmere Port L66 1JW, tel: 051-339 5316.

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WANTED AND FOR SALE ADS
PAGES 20-21.

ARTS DEVELOPMENT

Salary £9,474
HUMBER ARTS AND CRAFT INITIATIVE require a
Co-ordinator/Animateur

ARE YOU: creative, dynamic, forward thinking, a good communicator and more besides? If so, and you have experience in community arts practice, this post is an exciting opportunity in a new Organisation working to promote art and craft throughout Humber with particular reference to people with disabilities.

Applications by C.V. and covering letter by 15 September 1989. Further information from Carlo Corby.

(An equal opportunities employer, H.A.C.I. will take appropriate steps to accommodate any special needs requirement of the successful applicant. Job share proposals considered).

Suite 17, Hull Business Centre,
Guildhall Road, Hull HU1 1XJ.
Tel: (0482) 219644



**WALTHAM FOREST ASSOCIATION
FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
DEVELOPMENT WORKER/S**
£12,771 pro rata (SO1): Pay award pending 47 hours (2 posts)

WFAPD wishes to appoint two people with disabilities as development workers, to join a small and busy staff team. You will work to initiate and develop contacts with disability groups in the borough and to establish links with isolated disabled people. We particularly want to develop work with black and ethnic minority people with disabilities and people with sensory disabilities. Therefore candidates will need to demonstrate an ability and understanding in one of these two areas of work.

Some experience of carrying out development work and outreach work is essential. You must demonstrate an awareness of disability issues and an understanding of the various concerns of people with different disabilities.

We particularly wish to encourage women with disabilities from black and ethnic minority groups to apply. We have a total of 47 hours and wish to appoint two people. Hours to be negotiated at interview.

Application forms and further details from
WFAPD, Disability Resource Centre, 1a Warner Road,
Walthamstow E17 7DY. Tel: 01-509 0812.
Details available on tape. Accessible office.

WFAPD aims to be an Equal Opportunities Employer and will welcome applications from ALL people with disabilities. Applications are restricted to people with disabilities. Closing date - Monday, 2nd October 1989.

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Please tick ☐ Individual £6 ☐ Organisation £10

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To the Manager _____ (Your Bank)

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Please pay to the account of The Spastics Society (12729280) National Westminster Bank Plc, Euston Centre Branch (60:50:03) London NW1 3BA the sum of

£ _____ (Amount in words)

on _____ 198 _____ and thereafter on the same day each year until further notice.

Signature _____

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Please ensure that all parts of the form are completed and any alterations initialled. Disability Now is a non-profit publication. Receipts on request. Sorry, no refunds.

ARTS ACCESS

The Arts Access Unit of the Arts Council's Planning Department is responsible for the development, maintenance and monitoring of programmes of activity and projects to further the non-art-form policies of the Arts Council. Present policies are those relating to Ethnic Minority Arts, Arts and Disability and Women in the Arts; initiatives on other equal opportunity policy matters are to be developed.

We currently have a vacancy for an **Assistant Officer** relating, (although not exclusively), to the Council's Code of Practice on Arts and Disability. One of two Assistant Officers in the Unit, these staff play a crucial part in this small Unit and the successful candidate will assist in all aspects of the work.

Salary on a scale £10,807-£13,227 per annum (under review).

Good communication skills (spoken and written), commitment and an ability to work with energy and initiative as part of a busy team are more important than formal qualifications.

For an application form and job description, please contact the Personnel Department, Arts Council, 105 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AU. Tel: 01-629 9495 ext. 266. Closing date for receipt of applications: Wednesday 20th September 1989.

The Arts Council has an Equal Opportunities recruitment policy. It warmly welcomes applications from all sections of the community.



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PLACE IN
TOWER HAMLETS**

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£9,474-£10,812
Ref: 320/8791528

William Brinson is a social education centre for adults with learning difficulties/mental handicap. It is open daily Monday-Friday and amongst other facilities has a fully equipped woodwork shop.

Some of the 80 clients using the centre would like you to work with them to produce good saleable wooden articles to help them start a small business. They need you to have an understanding of their particular difficulties, perhaps you have a physical disability or may have taken early retirement and are wanting to pass on your skills to others.

If so, for further information please contact Doris Richards, 01-515 2000 ext 244.

Job applicant packs are available from Personnel Section, Poplar Neighbourhood Centre, Bow House, 159 Bow Road, London E3 2SE or telephone 01-980 1063 (ansaphone) or 01-980 4414 ext 5605.

Please quote job reference. Completed forms must be returned by 15 September 1989.

The Councils recruitment and retention package could mean subsidised car leasing, a re-location package worth up to £6,000, bridging loan facilities, free life insurance, subsidised mortgage and travel allowance.

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Applications are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post(s) regardless of sex, sexual orientation, religion, racial origin, marital status, disablement or age.

All jobs are open to jobshare unless otherwise stated.



POPLAR
neighbourhood



Sports Minister's report calls for integration

Colin Moynihan, Minister of Sport, launched a new report on sport and disability last month, saying: "There is an urgent need to put the outstanding achievements of disabled people on the same platform as those of the able-bodied."

Building on Ability took 18 months to produce, from a review body comprising members of numerous sports and disability groups. The 80-page report calls on the International Olympic Committee to insist that Paralympic Games are held by whichever city hosts the regular Games.

Seoul did so voluntarily in 1988, and Barcelona has offered to do the same in 1992, but the report seeks to make this arrangement compulsory.

It also urges the Sports Council to insist on provisions for integration before they fund sport's national governing bodies. The report suggests that two full-time co-ordinators be employed to improve conditions for disabled sports in each of the Sports Council's ten UK areas.

In answer to the charge that disabled sports were underfunded, Colin Moynihan suggested that they should concentrate on getting sponsorship from private companies.

The problems of sporting organisations' ignorance and media apathy were also addressed by the review body.

Only around half the groups contacted returned the questionnaire on which the report was based, and the media have traditionally been slow to focus on disabled sport.

It may, however, be a measure of a changing climate that this launch was reported the following day in the *Daily Telegraph*, and ITN were present to film it.

Alongside Colin Moynihan were Olympic gold medallist swimmer Duncan Goodhew, Councillor Bernard Atha (chair of the British Paralympic Association), Elizabeth Dendy and Tim Marshall of the Sports Council, Eva Loeffler of the British Paraplegic Sports Society, and Ivor Mitchell OBE, former vice chair of the British Sports Association for the Disabled.

Ivor Mitchell highlighted the disparity between able-bodied and disabled sports funding: the Sports Council has £41 million a year to spend - £350,000 goes to disabled groups or facilities. "There is a great deal of dissatisfaction with the present levels of funding," he said. "We are constantly aware of this, but there seems to be nothing we can do."

Building on Ability: Sport for people with disabilities, free from Publications Unit, Building 3, Department of the Environment, Victoria Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex HA4 0NZ, tel: 01-845 1200.



Aiming high: archers in action at the World Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Games, 23-30 July. For a report on the UK team's performance see page five.

LONDON NEWS SERVICE

Threat to council house adaptations

Leicester City Council is warning that council house tenants with disabilities may lose out under the Government's Housing Bill.

Leicester's housing chief says that disabled people are being discriminated against because, under the new bill, grants for adaptations to private-sector properties will be financed by money from the Exchequer, while adaptations to council properties will have to be funded by local authorities out of rent revenue.

In a letter to David Trippier, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, Surinder Sharma, Chair of Leicester's housing committee said:

"This effectively means that adaptations for public sector tenants have to be paid for by the authority's other tenants.

"Under current legislation, such grants are payable to public sector tenants as well as to private tenants and owner-occupiers.

"This is entirely fair, as surely it is the nature of the person's disability which should attract

the grant and not the tenure of their house," he said.

Leicester Council is urging David Trippier to ensure that the legislation is not drafted in such a way that adaptations to council flats are threatened. It says hundreds of disabled tenants in Leicester have benefited from the present system.

A Department of the Environment spokesman said this is one of the issues that ministers are considering at the moment. There is still time to lobby MPs before the Bill is passed.

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